FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

6 APRIL 1984

Lebanon

Al-Biqa' Alert — Syrian forces in the Al-Biqa' valley along with their Palestinian and Lebanese allies are on maximum alert as a precaution against a possible Israeli attack, Beirut radio reported. Meanwhile, the Israelis reinforced their positions in the southern Al-Biqa' with tanks and heavy artillery, according to the radio. Damascus radio cited reports of "an unusual situation" in the southern Lebanese border areas and of Israeli military movements toward Lebanon "indicating that Israel is preparing for a swift aggression." The radio also reported warnings by Arab diplomatic sources in London that Israel is preparing to carry out raids against "positions" in several Arab countries, including Syria and the PDRY, in retaliation for the 2 April Jerusalem operation. In Kuwait Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, warned Israel in a KUNA interview that it will pay a high price if it attacks Syria.

Political/Security Situation — Intensive Lebanese-Saudi-Syrian contacts were held in Damascus on 5 April to prepare the agenda for the imminent summit conference between the Lebanese and Syrian presidents, Radio Monte Carlo reported. Two Lebanese presidential envoys met with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, who later held talks with Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, the radio noted. A Syrian presidential spokesman announced that the date of the Syrian-Lebanese summit has not yet been set, according to Voice of Lebanon radio. In Beirut a subcommittee of the Higher Political-Security Committee reached agreement on a comprehensive plan for the disengagement of forces on all fronts, although several points remain unresolved, Beirut radio reported. Clashes continued in and around the capital on the night of 5-6 April but died down after a new cease-fire agreement was reached on 6 April, Voice of Lebanon said.

Israeli-Egyptian Relations

Egyptian preparations to build an infrastructure for an army on the eastern side of the Suez Canal are causing Israel "much concern" because this will allow the Egyptians to deploy much larger forces east of the canal than are permitted in the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty, Defense Minister Moshe Arens declared in remarks broadcast by Jerusalem radio. Although the treaty does not define the size of the infrastructure that can be built on the eastern side, it clearly stipulates that the Egyptians should not deploy more than one division there, he pointed out. Israel did not concede the entire Sinai just so that an Egyptian ambassador could be sent to Tel Aviv for 3 years, Arens asserted, and it expected to be compensated for its concessions with "full normalization or completely normal relations."

Meanwhile, after meeting with President Husni Mubarak in Cairo, former Israeli Foreign Minister Abba Eban said in an IDF Radio interview that he has "no doubt" of Mubarak's "genuine adherence" to the peace treaty, though he admitted that beyond this "there is far more dispute than there is accord" between Egypt and Israel.

Egyptian-Arab Relations

Egyptian Foreign Ministry First Under Secretary Usamah al-Baz, in an interview reported by MENA, said there is "harmony and agreement" in interests among all the Arab states and an "improvement" in Egyptian-Syrian relations. Stressing that Syria has a "legitimate cause" in its commitment to the Palestinian question and its right to liberate occupied Syrian territory, Al-Baz predicted that the day will come when Egypt's relations with Syria will be restored to the position that "every Arab" desires.

As for Egypt's return to the ICO, an Egyptian official announced that Egypt has agreed to attend the emergency conference of Islamic foreign ministers requested by the PLO to discuss the possible relocation of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem, Cairo radio reported.

Hijacking of Saudi Airliner

A Saudi airliner en route from Jidda to Damascus was hijacked to Istanbul airport where the pilots managed to bring the situation under control and handed the hijacker over to the Turkish authorities, the Saudi Civil Aviation Directorate announced in a statement broadcast by Riyadh television. Sources cited by AFP said Turkish security forces stormed the plane and captured two hijackers believed to be Syrians.

Iran-Iraq War

Tehran radio claimed that Iranian artillery fire recently destroyed an Iraqi post 23 km inside Iraqi territory, killing more than 300 enemy troops. The radio also cited a *LE MONDE* report that 2,000 Soviet military experts are in Iraq advising forces there.

Iran

Ayatollah Hoseyn 'Ali Montazeri, in remarks to shari'a judges and Evin Prison prosecutors reported by Tehran radio, recommended that supporters of opposition "minigroups" who have been jailed for their statements or publications be released if they guarantee not to plot against the Islamic Republic. Jailing such people is counterproductive because it encourages the "minigroups" to use the large number of prisoners in Iran for propaganda purposes and leads to "further deviation" as inmates receive "ideological indoctrination" against the authorities from imprisoned opposition leaders, Montazeri argued.

FBIS **DAILY REPORT**

CONTENTS

Middle East & Africa

Vol V No 068 *6 April 1984*

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW i

INTER-ARAB AFFAIRS

DFLP Official Quoted on Jerusalem Operation *[AL WATAN 4 Apr]* ..... A 1
'Arafat Message to Egyptian Solidarity Committee *[ASH-SHA'B 3 Apr]* ..... A 1
Al-Wazir Makes Statement in Amman *[SAWT ASH-SHA'B 5 Apr]* ..... A 2
Meeting of Three Palestinian Factions Expected *[SPA]* ..... A 2
Arab League Committee Meeting Postponed *[SPA]* ..... A 3
Voice of PLO Reports Resistance Operations ..... A 3
Attack in S. Lebanon ..... A 3
Jerusalem Attack ..... A 3

ARABIAN PENINSULA

KUWAIT

ARAB TIMES Comments on Jerusalem Incident *[4 Apr]* ..... C 1
AR-RA'Y AL-AMM Views Husayn Message To UAE *[3 Apr]* ..... C 1

OMAN

Navy Building New Training Center *[KHALEEJ TIMES 5 Apr]* ..... C 1

SAUDI ARABIA

Hijacking to Istanbul, Rescue Reported ..... C 2
King Fahd on Islam, Agricultural, Industrial Growth ..... C 2
Malaysian King Departs Jidda Following 3-Day Visit ..... C 2
Attempt to Move U.S. Embassy in Israel Viewed ..... C 3
AL-JAZIRAH: U.S. Backs Israeli Threats to Iraq *[1 Apr]* ..... C 3

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Interviews PDRY Chairman *[5 Apr]* ..... C 4

PDRY

Official Departs for Syria, Algeria ..... C 4

EGYPT

Attendance at ICO Meeting on Jerusalem Confirmed ..... D 1
Al-Baz Views Relations With Arab States ..... D 1
'Ali Interviewed by AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI ..... D 2
Ash-Sharif Views Relations With Sudan *[AL-HAWADITH 6 Apr]* ..... D 2
UAE Assistant Defense Minister Arrives 5 Apr ..... D 3
AL-AHALI on Cancellation of U.S. Missile Deal *[28 Mar]* ..... D 3

IRAQ

Armed Forces Communique No 1,426 - 5 April ..... E 1
Ramadan Receives Soviet, Greek Ambassadors ..... E 1
Iraqi, PRC Friendship Groups Hold Talks ..... E 1

Commentary on Revolution Anniversary in Iran ..... E 1
USSR's Karen Brutents Interviewed by KUNA *[cross-reference]* ..... E 1

JORDAN

Amman Press Reacts to Reagan Statements ..... F 1
Commander in Chief Meets British Officials ..... F 2
Spanish Foreign Minister Visits, Holds Talks ..... F 2
Meets King Husayn ..... F 2
Meets Layla Sharaf ..... F 2
Meets with Junblatt *[5 Apr]* ..... F 2
Comments on Relations ..... F 2
More on Al-Masri Speech ..... F 2
JORDAN TIMES Views Shultz' Terrorism Remarks *[5 Apr]* ..... F 3
AR-RA'Y Criticizes French Jerusalem Operation ..... F 3

LEBANON

Reportage on Visit of Advisers to Damascus ..... G 1
Political, Security Aspects Discussed *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... G 1
'Ubayd Returns to Beirut *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 1
Salim Calls Meeting on UNIFIL Mandate 7 Apr ..... G 1
Cabinet Decides To Resume Relations With Libya *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Progress Made on Military Disengagement ..... G 2
Committee Rejects Army Rebuilding Bill ..... G 2
Army Command Denies Ties With Southern Army *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 2
Radio Transmission Cut Called 'Grave Matter' *[KUNA]* ..... G 2
Franjiyah, U.S. Ambassador Discuss Situation *[Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Karami Meets Bartholomew, Criticizes U.S. *[Voice of the Mountain]* ..... G 3
PSP Delegation Meets With Soviet Ambassador ..... G 3
Shi'ite Council Calls for Israeli Withdrawal ..... G 3
RFL Says Situation Deteriorating in Beirut ..... G 3
Cease-Fire Ends Clashes in Beirut, Mountain *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Bomb Thrown at AS-SAFIR Offices in West Beirut *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 3
Syrian, Palestinian, Progressive Forces on Alert ..... G 4
USSR Warns of Israeli Attack in Al-Biqa' *[QNA]* ..... G 4
Syria Reportedly Sends Forces to Al-Biqa' *[Voice of Lebanon]* ..... G 4
Israelis Reportedly Moving Equipment to Al-Biqa' ..... G 4
National Resistance Operations Continuing ..... G 4
VOL on Grenade Attack on Israeli Patrol in Sidon ..... G 4
2 Israeli Soldiers Killed in Sidon Attack *[Voice of Arab Lebanon]* ..... G 5
Israeli Patrols Deployed in Areas in South ..... G 5
RFL Interviews Israeli Prime Minister Shamir ..... G 5

SYRIA

Reports on Israeli Military Movements Cited ..... H 1
Israelis Said To Prepare Raids on Syria, PDRY ..... H 1
ATH-THAWRAH on Israel's 'Maximum' State of Alert ..... H 1
Damascus Radio Scores U.S., Israeli War Threats ..... H 1
Khaddam Receives Senior Lebanese Advisers *[Paris Radio Monte Carlo]* ..... H 2
USSR Cultural Delegation Departs 5 Apr ..... H 2
PDRY Official Arrives in Damascus 5 Apr ..... H 2
Az-Zu'bi Receives Iranian Message 5 Apr ..... H 2

ISRAEL

Arens on Egyptian Military Activity in Sinai ..... I 1
POST Interviews Arens on Lebanon, Syria *[6 Apr]* ..... I 1
Syrians, Terrorists on 'Highest State of Alert' ..... I 6
Shamir Comments on Embassy Move to Jerusalem ..... I 6

Shamir Says IDF, Army of South Lebanon Gain Strength ..... I 6
Alignment Leader Shim'on Peres Nomination Speech ..... I 6
Peres Promises Arabs High Places on List ..... I 9
Peres on Gaza Autonomy, Talks With Jordan ..... I 9
Navon, Rabin Address Labor Party Meeting ..... I 9
Eban Comments on Mubarak Support for Peace Accords ..... I 9
Lebanon Impedes Relations Improvement *[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Apr]* ..... I 10
Ben-Elisar Affirms Mubarak Support for Peace Treaty *['AL HAMISHMAR 6 Apr]* ..... I 11
New Policy Adopted on Entry of Lebanese Civilians *[THE JERUSALEM POST6 Apr]* ..... I 11
MA'ARIV Commentary on New Settlement Drive *[5 Apr]* ..... I 11
Some Golan Heights Druze Giving Up Citizenship ..... I 12
Trade, Cooperation Agreement Signed With Norway ..... I 12
Danger to Coastline Reported to Ministry *[THE JERUSALEM POST 6 Apr]* ..... I 12

NORTH AFRICA

ALGERIA

SFRY President Spiljak To Lead Delegation Visit ..... Q 1

LIBYA

Shultz Accusations on Support for Terrorism Rebutted ..... Q 1
SFRY's Mamula Meets Again With Yunis Jabir, Departs ..... Q 1
Departs 5 Apr ..... Q 1

MOROCCO

Cameroon Foreign Minister Tonye Mbog Arrives 5 Apr ..... Q 1

SUDAN

Reportage on CAR President Kolingba's Visit ..... Q 1
Met by Numayri ..... Q 1
Kolingba Feted by Numayri ..... Q 2
Numayri, Kolingba Exchange Speeches ..... Q 2
Foreign Ministers Meet ..... Q 3
Khartoum University Closed Until Further Notice ..... Q 3
Al-Mirghani: Libyan Version of Bombing 'Despicable' *[London AL-HAWADITH 6 Apr]* ..... Q 3

TUNISIA

Joint Communique Published on Visit of LCY Delegation *[L'ACTION 29 Mar]* ..... Q 4

WESTERN SAHARA

Upper Volta's Sankara Comments on Sahara Visit *[Algiers]* ..... Q 5

EAST AFRICA

KENYA

PRC Envoy Delivers Message for President Moi ..... R 1
Border Patrol Agreement Made With Tanzania ..... R 1

TANZANIA

Reportage on Symposium on Namibia in Arusha ..... R 1
Ministers Address Symposium *[Kampala]* ..... R 1
ANC Appeals for Aid ..... R 1

CENTRAL AFRICA

CAMEROON

Northern Factions of Presidential Guard Rebel ..... S 1
Shooting, Disturbances in Palace *[Paris]* ..... S 1
Biya Not in Yaounde *[AFP]* ..... S 1
Tanks Move on Palace *[Paris]* ..... S 1
Foreign Minister Not Informed *[AFP]* ..... S 1
Bridge to Chad Closed *[AFP]* ..... S 1
All Airports Closed *[AFP]* ..... S 1
Police Colonel Resists Rebels *[AFP]* ..... S 1
Former President Declines Comment *[MENA]* ..... S 2
Situation Still 'Confused' *[Libreville]* ..... S 2

CHAD

Conflicting Reports on GUNT-Libyan 'Incidents' ..... S 2
'Informed Source' Confirms Clash *[AFP]* ..... S 2
Libyan Column Blocked at Zouar ..... S 2
Libyan Forces on Alert *[Paris]* ..... S 3
Bardai Denies Libyans Held ..... S 3
CORRECTION ..... S 3
Correction to 5 April Central Africa Section ..... S 3

GABON

Correction to President Bongo's New Cabinet ..... S 3

ZAIRE

France's Nucci Meets With Mobutu During Stopover ..... S 4
Radio, TV Workers Send Message to Mobutu ..... S 5

WEST AFRICA

GHANA

Tribunal Sentences Nine to Death in Absentia ..... T 1

GUINEA

Further on Situation After Military Takeover ..... T 1
Atmosphere Following Coup *[AFP]* ..... T 1
AFP Background on Conte ..... T 1
Conte Interview ..... T 1
Minister's Installation ..... T 2
Freeing of Trade Unions ..... T 2
Messages of Support ..... T 2

LIBERIA

Thirteen Accused Plotters To Be Executed *[AFP]* ..... T 3

NIGERIA

Lagos on 'Strategy' for Namibian Independence ..... T 3
Thailand, Pakistan, Others To Supply Foodstuffs ..... T 4

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Returns Following Visits Abroad ..... T 4

SOUTHERN AFRICA

ANGOLA

54 UNITA Troops Said Killed in Huambo, Cuanza Sul ..... U 1
Jorge Meets With Kampuchean Foreign Minister ..... U 1

BOTSWANA

Immigration Officer on Namibia Border Crossings ..... U 1

LESOTHO

Government Rejects as False ANC Call on Blast ..... U 1
RSA Identification Aid Requested ..... U 2
Electoral Act Amendment Introduced in Parliament ..... U 2

MADAGASCAR

U.S. Envoy Walters Departs After Seeing Ratsiraka ..... U 2
Bulgarian Trade Delegation Arrives for Visit ..... U 2

MOZAMBIQUE

ANC Must Leave Country or Move to UNHCR Camp ..... U 2
ANC: Mozambique Mission 'Trimmed' *[Umtata Capital Radio]* ..... U 3
District Demonstrations Held in Support of Accord ..... U 3

SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister: Steel Production Level 'Enviable' ..... U 3
Tambo Says ANC Intensifying Struggle Against RSA *[Harare]* ..... U 3
Indian Leader Says Bomb Aimed at SAIC Office *[RAND DAILY MAIL 6 Apr]* ..... U 3
Explosion Damages Building in Bloemfontein ..... U 4
SABC Considers Use of Satellites in Broadcasting ..... U 4

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Warns of Crackdown on Importers ..... U 4

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Sends Anniversary Message to Hungary ..... U 4
French Envoy Bellescize Bids Farewell to Banana ..... U 5
Toivo Departs After Meeting With Mugabe ..... U 5

DFLP Official Quoted on Jerusalem Operation

GF051720 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 4 Apr 84 P 1

[Sattar Jabbar dispatch]

[Text] Abu Layla, member of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine Political Bureau, has asserted in a telephone interview with *AL-WATAN* from his headquarters in Damascus that the operations being undertaken by the DFLP and a number of the other resistance fighters come in the framework of escalating the guerrilla action against the Zionist enemy in the occupied territories. He said that the occupied territories will witness in the next few days more firm and daring operations. Abu Layla pointed out that the armed struggle against the Zionist enemy is the only action that has to be considered at this stage and that this is the only method for unification of all the factions under the banner of armed struggle.

Leading Palestinian sources in Damascus told *AL-WATAN* that these operations come in response to those who toyed with various settlement plans. The source added that these operations blocked the options for a settlement forever. The source went on to say that the Palestinian resistance factions are currently coordinating their military action in one front to include the factions of the DFLP, the PFLP-GC and the Popular Struggle Front in addition to the opposition within Fatah.

'Arafat Message to Egyptian Solidarity Committee

PM051907 Cairo ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 3 Apr 84 pp 1,11

[Unattributed report: "Message From Yasir 'Arafat: Postponement of Conference of Egyptian Committee for Solidarity with the Palestinian People"]

[Text] PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has sent a message to members of the Egyptian Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee explaining the reasons for requesting the postponement of the special conference on solidarity with the Palestinian people which the committee arranged and scheduled to be held 30 March.

Yasir 'Arafat attributed the reasons for the postponement to his strong desire to come to Cairo during the conference and, in the meantime, the need to have time to put the Palestinian house in order and to bolster the democratic basis in the PLO institutions.

The following is text of Yasir 'Arafat's message to the Egyptian committee members:

Dear brothers members of the Egyptian Solidarity Committee:

Revolutionary greetings.

I wish I did not have to write you this letter only a few days before convening the conference which you have organized in order to express solidarity with the Palestinian people's right to self-determination, the conference which we scheduled together for 30 March 1984.

But my trust in your patriotism and my appreciation of your deep understanding and desire to consolidate solidarity between the Egyptian and Palestinian peoples on a sound basis reflecting national unity prompt me to tell you frankly that, despite my great and genuine desire to come to Cairo during this conference, the pressure of events which the Palestinian march is experiencing requires our greater efforts, dialogue, and exchange of views in order to strengthen the Palestinian revolution's position, consolidate national unity, and put the Palestinian house in order.

Therefore, I am writing to you while appreciating the great difficulty and the negative effects of postponement at such short notice. The desire to ensure the success of the conference after strengthening and consolidating the basis of democracy in the PLO institutions remains the reason.

Although a delegation representing us was preparing to go to Cairo to attend the conference, in view of my desire to participate in the conference at the highest level representing both the PLO and the Palestinian people's will, I appeal to you to postpone the conference till 15 May 1984 so we will be able to make it a prominent landmark in the joint struggle of the Egyption and Palestinian people on the road to national liberation.

I am writing you this letter with mixed feelings of great sorrow for deferring this opportunity at a time when hostile attacks on the Arab nation are escalating and of hope and trust that the conference on its new date of 15 May 1984 will attain maximum success and solidarity.

In order to overcome all the difficulties involved in the postponement of the conference and the preparations for the conference on the proposed new date, particularly since a number of eminent international personalities have accepted the invitation to attend it, I propose to you full coordination between the Egyptian Solidarity Committee and the PLO offices by sending joint delegations in order to contact the invited personalities and bodies to confirm their attendance. This is out of our commitment to support the conference and overcome all obstacles.

Finally, I reiterate my regret over the postponement at such short notice. I wish to express to you, brother members of the Egyptian Solidarity Committee, our sincere appreciation for the efforts you have exerted and the desire you have shown to express solidarity with the Palestinian revolution. Through you I wish to express thanks to all chairmen and members of the Egyptian parties that have expressed their solidarity reflecting the strategic ties between the Egyptian and Palestinian peoples.

I wish also to thank President Muhammad Husni Mubarak and his government for providing the facilities and the resources for convening this conference on Egyptian soil.

Until we meet at your conference in Cairo on 15 May 1984, please accept my best wishes for greater success.

Revolution until victory.

Your brother Yasir 'Arafat
Chairman of the PLO Executive Committee and commander in chief of the Palestinian Revolution Forces.

Al-Wazir Makes Statement in Amman

JN051242 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 5 Apr 84 pp 1, 19

[Text] Amman — *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* — Khalil al-Wazir [Abu Jihad], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, returned to Amman yesterday. Al-Wazir had paid working visits to Tunis for the Fatah Central Committee working session; to Algeria for participation with Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry and trade, in the delegation of the Jordanian-Palestinian joint committee for supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories; and to Aden, at the invitation of YSP Secretary General 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, where he headed the Fatah Central Committee delegation comprising Hani al-Hasan and Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, Central Committee members; and Revolutionary Council member Sakhir Abu Nizar.

In an exclusive statement to *SAWT ASH-SHA'B*, Abu Jihad said: After the meetings of the Fatah Central Committee, it was decided that the Fatah delegation leave for Aden at the invitation of PDRY President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad. We began talks in which Brothers Hani al-Hasan and Hayil 'Abd al-Hamid, Central Committee members; and Sakhir Abu Nizar and Zaki 'Abbas, Revolutionary Council members, participated on the Palestinian side; and the PDRY president, Deputy Prime Minister 'Ali Antar, and members of the YSP Political Bureau and Central Committee participated on the PDRY side.

During the meetings, we reviewed the results of the quadripartite meeting — the PFLP, the Democratic Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the Palestine Liberation Front, and the Palestinian Communist Party —; the efforts being exerted by the PDRY brothers to pave the path for strengthening the PLO's unity; and the rejection of the Libyan-Syrian plan to create an alternative PLO. We discussed ways to achieve unity of Palestinian ranks so that the PNC will convene to include all brothers who support the independent national decisionmaking.

During the meetings, the Central Committee's delegation was acquainted with the memorandum reached by the four organizations in their meetings in Aden. The delegation rejected a number of mistaken items in the memorandum. The delegation asserted the need to bypass the issue of exchanging memorandums, especially since the PFLP had rejected the Fatah Central Committee's memorandum, and a declaration of this rejection appeared in the newspapers.

Abu Jihad added: Hence, the delegation requested a date to be fixed within 2 weeks for a direct meeting to take place in Aden or Algeria. In this meeting, all presented issues will be disucssed without mediators in accordance with the traditions and methods of the Palestinian revolution, especially while preparing for the meetings of the PNC and the Palestinian leaders.

Abu Jihad said: The YSP command accepted the idea of arranging a date within 2 weeks so that delegations representing the leaderships of the various parties can discuss the issues and define the points of differences and agreements on the basis of the Palestinian struggle unity and maintaining the unity of the Palestinian institutions and decisionmaking.

Assessing the developments in the stands of the four Palestinian factions, Abu Jihad said: We will view with satisfaction any developments in the stand of any faction toward achieving common factors. We have asserted to the Yemeni brothers that propaganda campaigns will not help to overcome the current crisis. We have always said that we will not face any campaign with words that contribute to lack of confidence and tension. All this proceeds from our concern about the national responsibility to overcome this crisis. Thus, all must be aware of the dangers of the stage and realize that our future tasks require unity of stand and action.

On the visit of the joint committee delegation to Algeria, Abu Jihad, member of the Palestinian side in the joint committee, said: With Dr Jawad al-'Anani, minister of industry and trade, we paid an official visit to Algiera. During the visit, we held talks with Algerian Minister of Foreign Affairs Ahmed Taleb Ibrahimi, President of the National People's Assembly Rabah Bitat, his deputy Jalul Mala'ikeh, the FLN Central Committee's Permanent Secretariat, and the minister of higher education. During the meetings, we reviewed the tribulations our people are facing in the occupied territories, and the enemy's means aimed at implementing its plans to seize the territories and homeland. Our nation must not delay in paying its shares to the fund of the joint committee for supporting the steadfastness of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories; in the international arena, it must confront the issue of moving the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem; and it must do what it can to maintain the sanctity of Arab Jerusalem, and the steadfastness of our kinfolk in the occupied territories.

On the heroic Jerusalem operation, Abu Jihad said the armed struggle will remain, and the heroic operation against the enemy will escalate. This is the only language that the enemy understands that will force it to move away from the Palestinian soil and to recognize the national rights of our people.

He added: The occupied territories and militant action must be the arena in which all strugglers compete for more giving and sacrifices. The sacrifices and the blood of our martyrs and valiant fighters are the right path on which all potentials and efforts must be mobilized.

Meeting of Three Palestinian Factions Expected

LD052313 Riyadh SPA in English 1915 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] San'a', April 5 SPA — Leaders of three Palestinian factions are expected to meet within the next two weeks to discuss developments of the Palestinian issue.

They told REUTERS that Yasir 'Arafat, George Habash and Nayyif Hawatimah, respectively the leaders of Fatah, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine (PFLP) and the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine (DFLP), will probably meet either in Aden or Algiers. The officials said no preconditions had been set for the meeting, REUTER added.

Arab League Committee Meeting Postponed

LD052347 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1410 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Tunis, 5 Apr (SPA) — It has been decided to postpone until 18 May the meeting of the seven-member Arab League committee previously scheduled for early April.

This was done at the request of the committee member from Qatar after several information ministers apologized for not being able to attend on the previously fixed date.

Voice of PLO Reports Resistance Operations

Attack in S. Lebanon

JN051742 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Palestinian and Lebanese nationalist resistance men this morning carried out a new operation against the Zionist occupation forces. A group of the resistance men, using rockets and machine guns, attacked a Zionist military patrol on the Al-Ghassaniyyah-Al-Kawthariyyah road. The daring attack resulted in an armored Zionist vehicle being burned, and the killing or wounding of all its occupants.

Immediately after the attack, a large number of the occupation forces rushed to the scene of the operation, cordoned off the area, and prevented anyone from approaching it. Ambulances were seen evacuating the casualties.

Eyewitnesses said that a Zionist truck towed the vehicle on the An-Nabatiyyah road at the same time the occupation forces were combing the orchards near the road.

This new operation is within the framework of escalating resistance operations against the Zionist occupation. The resistance men killed or wounded more than 13 Zionist soldiers in an operation they carried out yesterday against an enemy military patrol passing on the An-Nabatiyyah highway

Jerusalem Attack

JN051735 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1615 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] One of our fighters attacked a Zionist soldier and stabbed him with a knife in Bab al-Wad street in occupied Jerusalem. The Zionist soldier was seriously wounded and evacuated to a hospital.

Following the operation, the Zionist occupation forces launched a large-scale arrest campaign against several Palestinian citizens. The Palestinian fighter safely left the scene of the attack.

KUWAIT

ARAB TIMES Comments on Jerusalem Incident

GF051146 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 4 Apr 84 p 6

["Opinion" column by Editor in Chief Ahmad al-Jarallah: "Getting Back To the Trenches"]

[Text] Ever since 1975 all those faithful to the Palestinian Revolution have been advising its leaders to stay away from the "red carpets" and keep the revolution in the trenches and not in the hotels.

Instead of watching the forces of Abu Salih attacking the forces of Abu Falah, or Abu Tamih stealing the ammunition of Abu Faris, we would like to see them face the real enemy, Israel.

Until now we have not dared dream of removing Israel because this entailed many difficulties. But at least Israel should be forced to realise that the real peace it should be seeking requires that Palestinians live on their land and enjoy their sovereignty like any other citizen. But it goes without saying that Palestinian sovereignty will always be incomplete so long as Israel stays in its occupied territories. For real peace cannot be achieved until justice prevails.

The outlawed IRA gives Britain lots of trouble because it wants Ulster to be separated from Britain. Yet we have had no reports that "Abu John" attacked the forces of "Abu Smith", though we have heard of John and Smith sowing terror in Britain. Whether we approve or not is beside the point.

The point is that if what happened in Jerusalem on Monday had happened on ten other occasions we would have avoided the thousands od dead in Lebanon and would have kept Lebanon's Arab identity without a useless civil war. If what happened on Monday took place more frequently we would have avoided the Israeli-Lebanese agreement, and we would not have had to abrogate it.

The Palestinian revolution lost its brilliance the moment some of its leaders felt flattered in sitting at the table of the famous and began enjoying Havana cigars and riding in limousines.

Peace does not necessarily mean peace for Israel alone, but also for those who are searching for a homeland, and to whom the world refuses to give entry visas and who live under strict police surveillance in any country they enter. These people are the Palestinians.

AR-RA'Y AL-AMM Views Husayn Message To UAE Leader

GF051340 Kuwait AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 3 Apr 84 PP 1, 19

[Dispatch by *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* Correspondent in Abu Dhabi]

[Text] *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* has learned from highranking sources that the message which King Husayn of Jordan has sent to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan contained Jordan's view on current Arab issues and means of confronting the challenges facing the Arab nation. The Jordanian monarch explained in his message the U.S. policy and stand on the Middle East crisis and Jordan's view on it.

In his message, King Husayn described the current situation as "decisive" and that the United States has adopted a completely biased policy toward Israel without taking into consideration the facts of the conflict and the just Palestinian cause. This is expected from a superpower which has strategic and vital interests and has friendly countries with whom it is linked through mutual interests.

The Jordanian monarch called for diplomatic and political efforts to pressure the United States and convince it to abandon its biased policy and adopt an objective stand on the just Arab causes.

King Husayn noted with regret that the United States makes its calculations on the Israeli equation without taking into consideration the great political and economic weight the Arab countries represent. The United States is only concerned with Israel, its interests, and friendship.

Addressing the Arab leaders, the Jordanian monarch said: I am putting this issue before you because I will adopt a stand which will probably be different from my previous stands unless the United States changes its biased policy and unless it adopts a more positive and realistic stand on the Middle East issue.

King Husayn added: By being completely biased to Israel, the United States does not have any options except the Israeli option: This means abandoning friendly countries in the region. This in turn requires an Arab move to confront the challenges and ensure that pan-Arab feelings overcome all minor differences; and for the Arabs to deal with the world's powers in a way that will ensure the Arab nation's interests.

OMAN

Navy Building New Training Center

GF051158 Dubayy KHALEEJ TIMES in English 5 Apr 84 p 1

[By correspondent]

[Text] Muscat — The Sultanate of Oman is building the Gulf's largest naval training centre and base in the Al-Batinah coast. It is expected to be ready by the middle of 1986.

A press party was taken round Musna'ah, to witness the construction work in progress there.

The Royal Oman Navy has acquired a strong position in the Gulf, within a short period. It has also acquired the latest electronic equipment and sophisticated weaponry.

The present naval base is located near Muscat. The need for another modern base was felt, in view of the rapid development over the last few years of the Royal Oman Navy.

The new naval base, near Musna'ah, is being developed with the cooperation and assistance of the local people. To express its gratitude to them, the Royal Oman Navy had taken the prominent citizens of the locality on a sea cruise, on board SNV [small naval vessel] *Al-Munasir*, its largest ship.

With the aid of a model, Lieutenant Rashid Hamdan, briefed the visiting newsmen on the facilities being built at the new Wudam Alwah Naval Base.

SAUDI ARABIA

Hijacking to Istanbul, Rescue Reported

GF051900 Riyadh Television Service in Arabic 1850 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] We have just received the following item: A statement issued by the Civil Aviation Directorate. A Saudia Airlines Tristar,flight No 287, en route from Damascus to Jidda, was hijacked at 1700 local time by an unknown person. He forced the plane to change course to Istanbul Airport. The pilots at Istanbul Airport managed to bring the situation under control and handed over the hijacker to the Turkish authorities. All the passengers disembarked safely. The operation ended safely. Thanks to God.

King Fahd on Islam, Agricultural, Industrial Growth

GF051530 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] His Majesty King Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz received yesterday the national soccer team of the Kingdom, its trainers and administrators. The meeting was attended by His Royal Highness Prince Fahd ibn Sultan ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, deputy chairman of the Saudi Soccer Association.

His majesty the king addressed the team members and urged them to adhere to the teachings of the noble Islamic doctrine. His Majesty said: You will leave for a friendly foreign country. We, as Saudis, have to be qualified with the honorable characteristics which God bestowed on us in this country. The king urged them to give the impression of Muslim youths who maintain their Islamic doctrine, who pray and who fulfill their Islamic duties. His majesty went on to say: This is not only directed to you as players but it is directed to all Saudi youths and citizens.

His majesty noted: When we leave our homeland, as Saudis, we have to uphold our ideals since we are Muslim people who adhere to our Islamic doctrine and fulfill Islamic duties. His majesty urged them to abstain from doing things that could harm their reputation and consequently harm the reputation of their homeland. His majesty said: My meeting with you is not only designed to instruct and alert you on how your status — in the society which you are entering — should be. I also want to use this good opportunity to tell all Saudi citizens and youths that we, as Saudis, have certain responsibilities to always honor the government and people by being as they expect us to be when we are abroad.

His majesty added that we have to uphold our ideals when we are abroad, indicating that ideals stem from adhering to our Islamic doctrine. The king asserted that it is an honorable thing to stand up in any place and perform prayers, as this act honors the doer. This will motivate people's respect because by doing this, you perform the rituals of the Islamic doctrine and perform your Islamic duties. His majesty urged them to abstain from making mistakes and slips that could harm the doctrine and the homeland. He also urged them to be sincere citizens who adhere to the Islamic doctrine in an enlightened manner. He pointed out that this is a good thing for this life and for afterlife.

His majesty the king then talked about the developments witnessed in the Kingdom in various industrial and agricultural fields in addition to the construction of hospitals and building of roads. He pointed out that Kingdom's production of wheat was 3,000 tons 7 years ago whereas it is 1.3 million tons this year. He asserted that with this the Kingdom has shown that it is an agricultural country. His majesty added that the Kingdom has currently reached full self-sufficiency in the field of planting seeds and producing sweet water by desalination of sea water. He indicated that 7 or 8 years ago the Kingdom could obtain only 10 million gallons of water a day whereas it is nowadays produces 500 million gallons a day.

His majesty expressed his pride over the various industrial projects in the Kingdom. His majesty expressed his satisfaction at the industrial construction in Al-Jubayl, Rabiz and Yanbu'. His majesty pointed out that oil production in the Kingdom extended from the Gulf to the Red Sea, and that sweet water reached from the Gulf to Riyadh and from the Red Sea to Al-Madinah and Mecca, At-Ta'if and Abha in addition to every village located near a city.

His majesty emphasized that roads built in various parts of the Kingdom, and that tunnels built in Mecca under the mountains are regarded as miracles. His majesty the king asserted that the private and financial freedom of Saudi citizens is guaranteed and that the Kingdom has no desire to obstruct any citizen who acts within the limits allowed by the noble Islamic law. His majesty said that the prosperity bestowed by God on the Kingdom can be attributed to the fact the Kingdom is honest.

Malaysian King Departs Jidda Following 3-Day Visit

LD052152 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1820 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Jidda, 5 Apr (SPA) — Jidda 5 Apr (SPA) — His Majesty Sultan Ahmad Shah, king of Malaysia, left Jidda this evening for homeafter a 3-day visit to the Kingdom, during which he performed a minorpilgrimage and visited the prophet's mosque.

He was seen off at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Majid ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz, governor of Mecca; the chief of royal protocol in Jidda 'Abd al-'Aziz (Jukhdar); commander of the western zone Major General Salih (As-Sudays), and a number of officials.

Attempt to Move U.S. Embassy in Israel Viewed

LD052235 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 5 Apr 84

[News and comment by Husayn al-'Askari]

[Text] It has been published in Washington that the members of the U.S. Congress who support the moving of the Israeli Embassy [as heard] from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem have started to retreat from their demands in an attempt to avoid a confrontation with the administration of President Reagan.

Moving the Israeli enemy's embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem is not a new measure to which the Zionist pressure groups in the U.S. are resorting. Since the enemy announced on 30 July 1980 the holy city, with both its eastern and western sections, as his capital, the pressure groups hurried to force the U.S. Administration to move its embassy to Jerusalem. But the UN Security Council's resolution, which was adopted in the same year and after the annexation, called on the UN member countries not to respond to the enemy's request to move their embassies to the so-called capital. These countries remained committed to this resolution, including the United States. But it seems that the variables which have been introduced into the development of events since the enemy invaded Lebanon have created positions from which the enemy believes that he is able to impose his options on the issue of the Arab-Israeli conflict. But realistic assessments of the results — which consider the actual realities especially after Lebanon abrogated its agreement with Israel — this assessment has given the enemy the impression, which has now reached the level of a conviction, that more than 2 years after its invasion of Lebanon and its continued occupation of a large part of the Lebanese territory, it has not achieved anything to date enabling it to impose its options on the Arab nation. This caused a muscle-flexing action by the American Jews to exhibit their ability to pressure the U.S. Administration into implementing their wishes, especially at a time when the American people are completely preoccupied with the presidential election campaign, through which much bargaining is offered by the candidates. At the forefront of this bargaining is the appeasement of the Jewish lobby in the United States.

Due to these considerations, the moving of the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem has been one of the cards of the election game. But it seems that the U.S. Administration has felt the dangers of such a game on the future of American relations with the Islamic World, and that is what the U.S. President expressed by saying that such a resolution lacks wisdom. The U.S. secretary of state described the matter as an operation which would cause great harm to American interests and relations with Islamic nations. Add to this that adopting such a resolution, if it is adopted by Congress, will not be binding for President Reagan's administration. It seems that this is the main reason that caused the Zionist pressure groups in Congress abandon the resolution and be content with the power demonstration. But this does not mean that the Zionist lobby has retreated.

AL-JAZIRAH: U.S. Backs Israeli Threats to Iraq

PM051211 Riyadh AL-JAZIRAH in Arabic 1 Apr 84 p 3

[Editorial: "About the Israeli Threat To Attack Iraq"]

[Text] Israel which, it has been proven, has been fighting alongside Iran against Iraq since the 30th month of the 42-month war, is about to seriously escalate its role in the war. A dispatch from *AL-JAZIRAH*'s Washington office has exposed the nature of Israel's intended escalation, which will take the form of a surprise strike similar to the 1981 Israeli raid on the nuclear reactor in the Tammuz suburb of Baghdad.

The new strike will, according to Israel, be against the so-called Iraqi chemical weapons plants. This is despite the fact that Iraq has categorically denied the existence of any such plants, as it categorically denied the claims of Iran and its supporters, such as Israel, that it used any of the internationally banned chemical weapons against Iran, and despite the fact that several UN and other international circles have corroborated Iraq's denial and emphasized that there is no evidence that Iraq used such barbaric weapons against the Iranians.

Why does Israel insist on what has been denied by Iraq, with the support of several international bodies? The answer is simply that Israel is looking for an excuse to commit aggression against Iraq, dealing a treacherous blow to cripple Iraq's growing military ability to confront and foil all Iranian attacks on Iraqi territory and prevent Iran from achieving its objectives, the most important of which is military occupation of Iraq. Israel does not want a strong Iraq capable of mounting a defensive attack, and it does not want Iraq to come out of the war with Iran with its military striking power still intact and with fighting experience which could benefit Iraq and the Arab states in any future war with Israel.

If the Israeli leaders thought for one moment that distant Mauritania, for example, had a nuclear reactor or a chemical weapons plant, they would give themselves the right to attack Mauritania on the pretext of destroying that nuclear reactor or chemical plant. This means that Israel, which pursues a policy of territorial expansion and aggression against the Arab states, is in constant, mortal fear of any Arab state, wherever it may be, possessing or attempting to possess one single advanced weapon similar to the weapons found in Israel itself, including chemical and nuclear weapons which, as confirmed by international military circles, Israel has had since the mid-sixties and which wasacquired through cooperation with its fellow racist south Africa.

What is regrettable in all this is that a superpower such as the United States not only supports such serious escalations of direct Israeli interference in the Iraqi-Iranian war but also encourages Israel to carry out a military strike against Iraq. The United States seems to overlook the fact that, by giving Israel this support and encouragement, it in fact contradicts a previous U.S. view which doubted the authenticity of Iranian and Israeli claims about Iraq's use of chemical weapons against the Iranians. Jeanne Kirkpatrick, U.S. UN representative, told the Security Council in March that there was no evidence to support claims that Iraq used chemical weapons against Iranian forces.

We believe that the Israeli threats of aggression against Iraq on the basis of these false claims call for international moves at the United Nations and, in particular, at the Security Council. Furthermore, the Arab and Islamic groups at the United Nations should sponsor an urgent call for a Security Council debate on the Israeli threats to Iraq and the effect of these threats on Iraq's security and peace and on the course of the Iraqi-Iranian war. If carried out, these threats would give the Iraqi-Iranian war a new and extremely serious dimension and would take the entire Gulf and Arab region to the brink of a large-scale war, dragging in other international and foreign sides — which would mean an unprecedented threat to international peace and security.

UAE

AL-KHALIJ Interviews PDRY Chairman

GF051802 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 5 Apr 84 P 16

[Excerpts] *AL-KHALIJ*: Your Excellency Chairman, what is the nature of the talks which you recently held with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and what are their effects and reflections on the current Arab situation?

'Ali Nasir: I discussed with brother President Hafiz al-Asad a number of issues dealing with bilateral relations. We also reviewed the current developments in the Palestinian and Lebanese arenas in particular, and in the Arab arena in general.

Our views were identical pertaining to the dangerous aggressive challenges which are threatening our Arab peoples as a result of the escalating military and political influence of the U.S.-Israeli alliance in the Arab region. During these talks, we affirmed the importance of concentrating the Arab efforts and enhancing the Arab struggle against various kinds of imperialist-Zionist onslaughts aimed at foiling the Arab national liberation movement, at restoring colonial hegemony to the Arab region and at disregarding the legitimate Arab rights, foremost of which are the Palestinian people's rights to return to their homeland, to self-determination and to establish their independent state.

AL-KHALIJ: Since the announcement of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the PDRY and the Sultanate of Oman — which was achieved through the results of the praiseworthy reconciliation efforts of the UAE and Kuwait — a period of tranquillity has prevailed without practical and effective steps. Are there any developments regarding this matter and when will the joint border committee continue its sessions?

'Ali Nasir: Actually, the announcement of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the PDRY and the Sultanate of Oman was made on 27 October 1983. The joint border committee began its sessions at the end of October to normalize relations between the two countries. We hope that the committee will resume its sessions in the near future.

PDRY

Official Departs for Syria, Algeria

GF051604 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Brother 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the Central Committee, left Aden this morning for the Syrian Arab Republic and the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria.

Attendance at ICO Meeting on Jerusalem Confirmed

NC051312 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] 'Imran Ash-Shafi'i, assistant foreign minister, has stated that Egypt today informed the ICO secretariat of its agreement to attend an emergency conference of the Islamic states foreign ministers at the request of PLO leader Yasir 'Arafat to discuss the consequences of the possible relocation of the U.S. Embassy to Jerusalem.

Al-Baz Views Relations With Arab States

NC052007 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1815 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] London, 5 Apr (MENA) — Dr Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs, has emphasized that Egypt views Arab relations from the angle that there is no competition between one Arab country and another. In an interview with *AT-TADAMUN* magazine, which is published in Arabic in London, Dr al-Baz says: We believe there is harmony and agreement in interests among all the Arab states, without exception. The disagreement on the means and methods leading to the goals we unanimously agreed upon are temporary.

Answering a question on whether there has been an improvement in Egyptian-Syrian relations, Al-Baz says: We view the relations between Egypt and Syria from this premise. Moreover, we cannot forget that we and Syria were partners in the October 1973 war and that Syria is a main party to the process of establishing peace and maintaining security and stability in the region.

Al-Baz emphasizes that Syria has a legitimate cause stemming from its commitment to the Palestinian question and its right to liberate its occupied territory.

Dr al-Baz explains that the improvement in Egyptian-Syrian relations is due to the fact that the two states concentrate on the national issues and avoid the discussion of secondary matters.

Dr al-Baz expresses his belief that a day will come when relations between Egypt and Syria will be restored to the position which every Arab desires.

Regarding Egyptian-Jordanian relations and whether there is a relationship between King Husayn's recent statements regarding U.S. Middle East policy and the visit which Dr al-Baz made recently to Jordan, the director of the President's Office for Political Affairs says: Our relations with Jordan do not consist of a mere statement or stand. Our relations are indeed much bigger than this. Each of us has a role in establishing a just and comprehensive peace in order to create the circumstances conducive to the achievement of a certain Arab unanimity.

Al-Baz adds: The coordination is not done on the basis of the stand of the U.S. Administration alone or of the stand of a specific government. We establish our stand on the basis of the various existing stands. Therefore, the U.S. stand is one of the points we take into consideration within this general framework.

In his interview, Dr Usamah al-Baz deals with the Camp David agreement, affirming that it is wrong to make this agreement a continuing issue in Arab thinking because it was not meant to impose a new reality in the area — it was an attempt to find an outlet to the armed conflict between Israel and the Arabs. He says that on this basis Egypt signed a peace treaty with Israel, as well as an agreement including some lines for beginning a settlement of the Palestinian problem.

Al-Baz adds: Hence, we believe that it is in Egypt's interest to abide by the provisions of this treaty, which resulted in the liberation of Sinai. This is an important question which we must not overlook. It was thus proved that this treaty has not restricted Egypt from adopting a stance that it considers in the general national interest.

Al-Baz says that Egypt has taken upon itself to oppose the Israeli attempts to perpetuate its occupation of the West Bank and Gaza, to extend its influence into Lebanon, and to threaten Jordan's security. It is therefore wrong for the Arabs to believe that Egypt is shackled by this treaty. All of us, including Syria, have accepted to bring about a peaceful settlement with Israel on the basis of the principle that it is inadmissable to seize territory by force.

Dr al-Baz says that with regard to the second part of the Camp David agreement on the Palestinian question, Egypt is not imposing this on the Palestinian people and believes that it has no right to dictate on them to abide by the agreement. We believe that it constitutes one of the options proposed in the arena. It is necessary to develop this formula, bringing it in harmony with other formulas. We have, therefore, supported Reagan's plan and the resolutions of the Arab summit in Fes.

Answering a question about the Egyptian-French plan and whether it was a substitute for or an extension to Camp David, Dr al-Baz says: Egypt and France presented a draft resolution to the Security Council to add to and strengthened the Camp David formula so as to open the door for negotiations that could settle the Arab-Israeli conflict.

Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, Dr al-Baz stresses that Egypt strongly calls for and seeks by various ways a solution that would end this grinding war, which benefits no one. He says: We consider the recent escalation of the war a serious and regrettable development because it will cause further victims in Iran and Iraq and further disturbances to security and stability. [Passage indistinct]

Dr al-Baz says Egypt's reaction to the raid on Omdurman was one of alertness and of cautioning against the stupidity of this policy. We tried in the past to make it clear to the Libyan leadership that we will not tolerate any harm to the security of the neighboring Arab states. He points out that President Husni Mubarak believes Libya should refrain from harming the security and safety of the neighboring Arab states, and it should avoid interfering in their domestic affairs as a condition for the improvement of the relations between Egypt and Libya. The President, he says, conveyed this when Libyan Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi sent envoys to contact him.

In his interview with *AT-TADAMUN*, Dr al-Baz denies the existence of Egyptian troop concentrations on the border with Libya or any other Arab state, saying: We went to the length of establishing peace with all states in the area, and we apply this concept to the Arab countries, which we consider as our partners in the struggle.

Regarding the internal conditions in Egypt and the forthcoming People's Assembly elections, Dr al-Baz stresses that what is important is that the process of consolidating democracy in Egypt is progressiving with firm steps and that the march along this path will not stop.

Al-Baz says there is great Arab interest in what is taking place in Egypt on the basis that what happens in Egypt affects the entire Arab arena, whether we like it or not.

'Ali Interviewed by AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI

NC051640 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, 5 Apr (MENA) — Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, today declared that Egypt supports Iraq. In an interview with *AL-WATAN AL-'ARABI* magazine to be published tomorrow, Friday, in Paris he says that Egypt has contributed to the efforts aimed at stopping the war in the Gulf from the time Iraq had declared its desire for a peaceful ending of the fighting. Egypt has participated with international organizations, and through its intensive international contacts, in the call for ending the unjustified fighting and bloodshed.

Answering a question on whether there is anything new in Egyptian-Iraqi relations at the diplomatic level, he says that the dialogue, talks, and exchange of views with Iraq continue and that the Iraqi-Iranian war, the problems of the Arab homeland as a whole, and Arab solidarity are the issues that concern us most.

On his recent meeting with Iraqi President Saddam Husayn, Kamal Hasan 'Ali says: I conveyed to the Iraqi president a message from President Husni Mubarak. He stresses that his dialogue with President Saddam Husayn has shown agreement in the two countries' viewpoints on the problems and issues that face the Arab homeland and threaten the area's security and stability.

In the interview the deputy prime minister and foreign minister points to the consultations going on among the nonaligned countries to stop the Gulf war. He says that this matter was agreed on before the New Delhi conference held in March last year, that the contacts are continuing, and that we hope that the efforts will succed this time.

Answering a question on the peaceful solution of the Palestinian problem, Kamal Hasan 'Ali says that Egypt supports the peaceful solution for this issue. It also supports the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue to reach a formula for the representation of the Palestinians in any future negotiations to bring about a peaceful solution.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister points out in this respect that Egypt always insists that Israel take positive and rational stances, that it stop building settlements and halt its practices in the West Bank and Gaza which are aimed at the gradual annexation of the territories, thus opposing the spirit of the Camp David agreement and all the initiatives that the international community, with its various sections and systems, has taken.

Kamal Hasan 'Ali says in the interview that the Camp David agreement is the only agreement that legally binds Israel to the peace process and to the course of peaceful solution without annexing territories. He says that the agreement is also a consolidation of resolutions 242 and 338 and has made the Palestinian issue an issue of a people and not an issue of refugees. This is why Egypt is committed to this agreement.

Replying to a question on Egyptian-Arab relations, the deputy prime minister says that this relationship is developing to the extent desired by the Arab countries. Our relations have recently deepened with a number of Arab countries that previously have had anti-Egyptian stances. He stresses that Egypt's return to the Arab rank will be for the sake of the Arab issues which Egypt has not abandoned under any circumstances. He says: We will continue to work for the Arab issues within a pan-Arab concept aimed at achieving the pan-Arab interest, and this is what Egypt confirmed when war broke out between Iraq and Iran.

Regarding the recent developments in Sudan and the bombing of Omdurman radio station, 'Ali says there are indisputable facts — Egypt and Sudan are strategically linked.

The deputy prime minister adds: Anyone who might try to intefere in Sudan's domestic affairs or harm its security and stability will confront the two countries together — not only because we are two states and one people, but because we have a joint defense treaty which will be implemented when necessary. He further says: Egypt's attitude toward the bombing of Omdurman radio station confirms that Egypt is serious in this regard.

Ash-Sharif Views Relations With Sudan

PM051404 London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 6 Apr 84 pp 28,29

[Interview with Minister of Information Safwat ash-Sharif by Nash'at at-Taghlabi in Cairo — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: In the light of President Husni Mubarak's statement in Khartoum and on the basis of the joint defense pact, can it be said that in the event of an attack on Sudan, Egypt will participate in the fighting to repel such an attack?

Answer: An attack on Sudan means an attack on Egypt, and a threat to Sudan of necessity means a threat to Egypt.

Egypt has made its position clear. We have an integration agreement with Sudan as well as a joint defense agreement. We also share particularly deep-rooted ties.

Question: It is a known fact that no president of any country in the world suddenly goes to another country unless there is a grave matter calling for it. Egypt's President Mubarak paid a lightning visit to Sudan that lasted only a few hours. Was this a surprise visit and, if it was so, was it in order t· deal with a serious situation?

Answer: It is perhaps important to note here that there is nothing between Egypt and Sudan that is known as "movement protocol." President Mubarak may go to Sudan any time, and this has happened more than once. President Numayri comes to Aswan, Alexandria, or Cairo at any time. The relations between the two countries are different from those with other countries. We are linked together by ties of kinship on the one hand and by joint security on the other. This is not something new. It is worth mentioning here that President Mubarak saw fit to attend the Sudanese Socialist Union's [SSU] popular meeting and to participate with President Numayri in his patriotic stand.

Question: That is to say, there was no other reason.

Answer: Egypt always clearly declares its intentions and plans.

Question: With regard to integration projects between Egypt and Sudan, can you state briefly how much has been achieved so far and how much is expected to be achieved during this year?

Answer: The answer to this needs a long interview and several meetings with the ministers concerned. However, I would say that many achievements have been accomplished in irrigation and road projects. Great progress has been made in completing the road linking Egypt and Sudan. Progress has been made in work on the Jonglei canal. Another project on which rapid progress is being made is in the media field. An example is the establishment of a joint Arab broadcasting station for the first time in the history of the area. The station will be staffed by Egyptians and Sudanese and will be transmitting daily. It is called the Nile Valley broadcasting station. In the television field messages and a variety of programs are exchanged almost daily. There are joint fairs. In May a new magazine is to be published to serve the objectives of integration. Its chief editor will be Anis Mansur. Important steps have been taken in the field of education with regard to the integration and coordination of education programs, particularly university education. In the economic field there are private sector projects, joint companies, and the integration fund which is already active in the field of agriculture.

Question: Has work on the Jonglei canal been affected by the events in southern Sudan?

Answer: Work did stop for some time, but the French side is trying to restart the work. I believe that work has actually been restarted.

UAE Assistant Defense Minister Arrives 5 Apr

NC051855 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1742 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, 5 Apr (MENA) — Brigadier General Zaki Ahmad Salim al-Ku'ayb, UAE assistant defense minister and head of the organization for training the UAE Armed Forces, arrived in Cairo this afternoon on an official visit.

AL-AHALI on Cancellation of U.S. Missile Deal

PM040903 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 28 Mar 84 p 2

[Muhammad Sayyid Ahmad "Our Foreign Policy" column: "Friends and Lackeys"]

[Text] U.S. diplomacy has tried to delude the Arabs into believing that Reagan's decision to cancel the missile deal with Jordan and Saudi Arabia was aimed at obtaining the cancellation of the bill before Congress providing for the recognition of Jerusalem as the capital of Israel and the relocation of the U.S. Embassy there.

But the U.S. Administration's efforts to make Congress drop the bill on Jerusalem have failed and Reagan ended up cancelling a previous decision in favor of two moderate Arab states friendly to the United States.

But there was no rejection of the demand made by the pro-Israeli lobby.

Indeed, the Israeli paper *HA'ARETZ* said that the United States has decided to set up a liaison office in Jerusalem, which would be a first step toward moving the embassy.

Thus it has been proven that in an election year the U.S. President does not hesitate to anger the Arab world, the Islamic world, and even the Christian world, just to please the Jewish lobby regardless of U.S. interests.

Reagan's action certainly implies another thing: Punishing King Husayn for the statements he made last week, in which he rejected the Reagan policy of encouraging Jordan and the Palestinians to enter into negotiations with Israel.

King Husayn has no right to reject, express frustration with, or criticize the United States because he has always been seen as one of the loyal elements who benefit from U.S. generosity and whose thrones have continued to exist thanks to U.S. support.

Nevertheless, King Husayn did not sign the Camp David agreements nor conclude a peace treaty with Israel.

As for Saudi Arabia, it has been slapped in the face for no apparent reason.

Maybe simply because its quiet diplomacy is incapable of defending its rights and confronting Zionist pressure during a noisy election year.

Or is it because Saudi Arabia has replaced the United States in the major role of mediating in Lebanon?

Washington is proving daily that it has one single friend in the Middle East, namely Israel. As for the rest of the Arab "friends," they only are required to be lackeys.

Armed Forces Communique No 1,426 - 5 April

JN051631 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Communique No 1,426 issued by Armed Forces General Command on 5 April 1984]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. In defense of the noble, national, and pan-Arab principles, the proud Iraqis and their valiant Armed Forces are continuing their brave confrontation of the unjust Iranian aggression. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units opened fire on enemy positions and vehicles opposite our positions east of Basra, killing 18; wounding others; destroying 2 vehicles, 1 of which was carrying personnel, 1 106-mm gun, 2 hardware stockpiles, and 2 excavators; and hitting 3 other excavators. Elsewhere in the same area, one of our forward units opened fire on an enemy patrol which tried to approach our forward positions, killing one and wounding others.

2. One of our forward units carried out an operation against enemy positions opposite our positions in the east Tigris operational sector and destroyed four infantry positions. Elsewhere in the same sector, a vehicle carrying a 106-mm gun was set on fire and its occupants were either killed or wounded.

3. One was killed and one medium machine gun emplacement was destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

4. One infantry position was destroyed in the northern sector of the battlefield.

5. Last night and today, the criminal Iranian regime shelled Basra, Khanaqin, Mandali, and Khurmal with heavy artillery. The savage enemy shelling led to the martyrdom of one civilian, the wounding of three others, the destruction of two houses, and the setting of two other houses on fire in Basra; the destructionof two houses and damage to two other houses and two civilian cars in Khanaqin; and damage to several civilian establishments in Mandali and Khurmal.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 5 April 1984

Ramadan Receives Soviet, Greek Ambassadors

JN051306 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Apr (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister, today received USSR Ambassador in Baghdad Viktor Minin. During the meeting, the two sides reviewed relations of cooperation between Iraq and the USSR in all spheres in service of the interests of the peoples in the two friendly countries.

Taha Yasin Ramadan also received today Greek Ambassador in Baghdad Leonidhas Evangelidhis on the occasion of the end of his term of office in Baghdad. Discussion during the meeting focused on the relations which exist between Iraq and Greece in service of the two friendly countries' interests.

Iraqi, PRC Friendship Groups Hold Talks

JN051658 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1636 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Baghdad, 5 Apr (INA) — 'Abd al-Fattah Muhammad Amin, chairman of the Union of Iraqi Societies of Friendship with Peoples, today received Lin Lin, vice president of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries, and his delegation.

The two sides discussed their relations of friendship and the ways to bolster them. Lin Lin praised Iraq's positive stands toward ending the war with Iran peacefully.

Commentary on Revolution Anniversary in Iran

GF051714 Baghdad International Service in Azeri 1900 GMT 2 Apr 84

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Dear listeners, 5 years of terror and horror; 5 years of blood and death; 5 years of execution and imprisonment; 5 years of oppression; 5 years of torture; 5 years of mysticism; 5 years of pillage and plunder; 5 years of attacks on the honor, dignity, opinion, and prestige of the Iranians; 5 years of dragging the Iranians to the pit of illiteracy; 5 years of the [word indistinct] of the illuminated of the poor Iranian peoples through the closure of the doors of universities and scientific centers; and 5 years of meetings of mourning, hatred, indignation, discord, and death — in which the spiritual family of the turbaned mullahs spoke nothing else but nonsense and declared war on the whole world like Don Quixote.

Yes, 5 years. This is the pitiful outcome of the dark and bloody rule the illegal regime of the bloody school of Khomeyni brought to Iran and the Iranians.

Let these owls of illiteracy play their own music and dance to their own tune. Let them regard their crimes as festive occasions. However, they must understand that the festive day of the people is close at hand. The poor but heroic Iranian peoples will mark the anniversary of their glorious revolution on the corpses of the members of this group of insidious and miserable elements. That day is not far away.

USSR's Karen Brutents Interviewed by KUNA

For a report on an interview given by Soviet envoy Karen Brutents, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee International Department, to KUNA, during a brief stopover in Kuwait en route to Baghdad, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 6 April Soviet Union *DAILY REPORT*.

Amman Press Reacts to Reagan Statements

JN060843 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Reagan and the Late Admission," *SAWT ASH-SHA'B* says: Whether President Reagan talked about the loss of all or part of U.S. credibility in the Middle East, the fact that emerged for the many years during which the United States was the only country directing events in the region is evidence that Washington's policy has practically failed to give the Middle East people an opportunity to be convinced that Washington has principles to defend and to protect — principles that constitute the foundations of its trends to achieve a just and honorable peace in the region. Successive U.S. Administrations have considered this region vital to the higher interests of the free world.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B says: However, the matters that have always governed the U.S. trends and have defined both their beginnings and ends in the Middle East are: Supporting Israel with all means of aggression against the Arabs and with all that will help it to continue its occupation of the Arab territories; and aborting all calls for recognizing the Palestinian people's legitimate rights to self-determination in their Palestinian homeland. Since this support has been the only established fact in the U.S. policy, the Arabs have not been able to build bridges of mutual confidence with the successive U.S. Administrations. It is absurd to accept the mediation of a party such as the United States, which has always been a permanent ally of aggression and expansion at the expense of the Arab territory and people.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B continues: If it wants to regain its credibility in the Middle East, the United States must reconsider its stands and strategies in the region so that it will be considered a fair and unbiased party that takes into consideration the Arab rights, which have always been intentionally ignored by the U.S. Administrations under the pressure of the Zionist lobby in the United States.

After experiencing the bitterness of the failure of its Middle East policy, which is biased toward Israel, Washington's path has become clear. While justifying the failure of his country's policy in the region, Reagan was blaming Congress without pointing to Israel. He is the U.S. President who has been greatly frustrated by the aggressive and expansionist Israeli policy.

SAWT ASH-SHA'B concludes: Although we believe that President Reagan will not adopt any meaningful stand until the end of this year — the end of the U.S. election campaign — his admission of the loss of U.S. credibility in the Middle East will remain a sign and a base for future U.S. policy, whether President Reagan is reelected or whether another president is elected from those who are completing to gain Israel's friendship.

Under the headline "Between the President's Deeds and Words," *AD-DUSTUR* says: At the news conference he held in Washington the day before yesterday, U.S. President Ronald Reagan admitted that the United States has lost part of its credibility in the Middle East due to what he called the withdrawal of its forces from Lebanon. The U.S. President's admission of this fact asserts the soundness of His Majesty King Husayn's statement to the *NEWSWEEK TIMES* [title as heard] newspaper in the middle of the last month. At this time, this admission is an eloquent reply to the ridicule and contorted reaction some U.S. circles showed toward King Husayn's statements.

AD-DUSTUR says: However, we would like to draw attention to the fact that the loss of U.S. credibility was not the result of withdrawing the Marines from Lebanon, as President Reagan said. There are many things that weakened confidence in the United States and led to the loss of U.S. credibility in the Arab world.

AD-DUSTUR continues: These signs are represented by the continued reversal of stands on the U.S. commitments concerning the Arab cause, and by the oscillation and instability of these stands. What is meant by the unstable U.S. stand on the implementation of UN Resolution 242 — the resolution adopted and blessed by the United States when it was issued? What is also meant by the frequent reversal of the U.S. stand on Israeli settlements in the occupied territories — the stand which began with firm opposition and condemnation of the settlements policy as a violation of international laws, which then considered the settlements as an obstacle to peace, and which finally considered these settlements as not contributing toward the achievement of peace? In practice, the U.S. has encouraged Israel to pursue this policy, and has given it hundreds of millions of dollars to enable it to continue the settlements.

AD-DUSTUR concludes: We do not know who is deceiving President Reagan with such talk; what we do know is that the President's deeds completely contradict his words. Anyone who wants to contribute to making peace must have determination, sincerity, and courage in order to face those who reject peace. Regrettably, until now the U.S. policy in the region has always supported the camp that opposes peace — namely, Israel.

Under the headline "Half the Truth," *AR-RA'Y* says: President Reagan admitted half the truth yesterday when he said that his country lost its credibility because of its policy toward Lebanon. The U.S. President should have admitted the whole truth by saying that credibility was lost because U.S. policy has become a tool for seeking Israel's contentment, and for justifying Israel's ambitions and enabling it to achieve them at the expense of the United States' interests and reputation in the region.

AR-RA'Y says: Reagan should have said that the running after the Jewish votes and the bargaining over the Palestine cause by those who are competing for these votes will also cause his country to lose credibility in the future. As long as U.S. decision-makers continue to boast that they are more loyal to Israel than to the United States, there will be no hope of the United States one day regaining its credibility which has collapsed in the Arab world and other parts of the world. The strange thing is that President Reagan, who admitted the loss of U.S. credibility, did not hesitate to call on Jordan to join the so-called peace negotiations, or to claim that the plan the United States declared on 1 September 1982, which Israel aborted on the same day, is still the only path for peace in the region.

AR-RA'Y continues: We would like to remind President Reagan that there are currently no negotiations being held which Jordan could be called on to join. A few years ago, the only thing that existed was the failing autonomy talks, which have ended. On the other hand, any negotiations need an obvious basis annd a definite objective. Reagan and others know that Israel only accepts negotiations for the sake of negotiations, and that one of Israel's conditions is that it rules the PLO out of any negotiations.

We would also like to ask the U.S. President the following: Why doesn't his administration recognize the PLO, and why doesn't it begin to negotiate with the PLO if it is serious about opening doors for negotiations to achieve peace in the region? It is obvious that President Reagan and others know that Jordan has always asserted that it will not enter negotiations as a substitute for anybody or on behalf of anybody. Jordan adheres to this stand, and will never relinquish it.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Thus, it has become obvious that Reagan's desperate and failing attempt to throw the ball into the Jordanian court means that Reagan has learned nothing from losing U.S. credibility in the region. It also emphasizes the belief that those who admit half of the truth and swallow the other half will find it difficult to return to the correct path.

Commander in Chief Meets British Officials

JN051244 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] London — Staff Lieutenant General Ash-Sharif Zayd ibn Shakir, commander in chief of the Jordanian Armed Forces, met wtih Michael Heseltine, British secretary of state for defense at the British Defense Ministry this morning. He also met with General Sir (John Seteiner), British acting chief of the joint staff. During both meetings, a number of matters of mutual interest were discussed.

Spanish Foreign Minister Visits, Holds Talks

Meets King Husayn

JN051632 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Amman — His Majesty King Husayn received Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Maron at An-Nadwah Palace this afternoon . The meeting was attended by the prime minister, the chief of the Royal Hashemite Court, the court minister, the minister of foreign affairs, and the Spanish ambassador in Amman.

Meets Layla Sharaf

JN041553 Amman PETRA-JNA in Arabic 1425 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Amman, 4 Apr (PETRA) — Information Minister Mrs Layla Sharaf met this afternoon with Fernando Moran, Spanish foreign minister, and the accompanying delegation.

During the meeting, means for developing and strengthening media cooperation between the two countries were discussed, especially in the field of producing documentary films concerning Middle East issues which would highlight Arab, and particularly Jordanian efforts in political matters. They also discussed increasing the exchange of media officials between the two countries.

Views on the role of Arab political propaganda concerning the Palestinian question and ways to revitalize this role, along with other Arab issues in the Spanish and European arenas were exchanged.

Means for activating cultural exchanges between Jordan and Spain through the media because of the distinguished historical relations that tie them together were also discussed.

The meeting was also attended by Munir ad-Durrah, director general of Jordan Television, and the Spanish ambassador in Amman.

Meets with Junblatt

JN051220 Amman AR-RA'Y in Arabic 5 Apr 84 p 1

[Text] Amman — Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran yesterday met with Walid Jublatt, leader of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, who is currently in Amman. The discussion focused on the current situation in the region, particularly in the Lebanese arena.

Comments on Relations

JN051843 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran has praised Jordanian-Spanish relations and described them as excellent, whose roots extend for long years and are strengthened by the continuing care of both Their Majesties King Husayn and Juan Carlos.

In a statement to Jordan television correspondent Thabit Suways, Moran said that Spain's stand on Middle East issues is very clear; namely, supporting the prerequisites for world peace and ensuring the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

He emphasized that his country does not want to establish diplomatic relations with Israel in the near future, so long as Israel continues to occupy Arab territories and ignores the Palestinian people's legitimate rights.

More on Al-Masri Speech

JN050920 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Further report on speech by Tahir al-Masri, foreign minister, at 4 April dinner given in honor of Spanish Foreign Minister Fernando Moran]

[Excerpt] Jordanian Foreign Minister Tahir al-Masri has said

that the achievement of peace in the Middle East is an international responsibility. He reiterated that there must be international pressure on Israel to make it relinquish its stand, which rejects peace. He expressed his belief that any peaceful initiative must embody the following basic international principles:

1. Non-occupation of land by force.

2. Recognizing the Palestinian people's legitimate and inalienable rights.

3. The right of all countries in the region to live within secured and recognized borders.

Concerning the support of the peace issue, Al-Masri said that the Jordanian Government and the PLO are trying to reach a political formula in order to undertake joint action toward achieving peace in the Middle East. Al-Masri added: We hope that through this political formula the first important priority will be achieved; namely, rescuing the kinfolk and land from occupation.

Concerning the Iraq-Irzn war, Al-Masri said that it has become an inevitable duty to halt the bloodshed and suffering, because to continue with such a situation will only cause more destruction. He reiterated that Jordan beleives the basis for ending the Iraq-Iran conflict can be made available through the various UN Security Council resolutions and the intensified efforts of the Nonaligned Movement and the ICO — efforts which Iraq accepted and Iran rejected.

In a reply speech the Spanish foreign minister expressed his thanks for the good hospitality accorded to him in Jordan. He praised the present relations between the two countries.

The dinner was attended by a number of ministers, the secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Spanish ambassadors in the Middle East, and the Jordanian ambassador in Madrid.

(ENDALL) 042100 NZ/JABIR/LD 05/0938Z APR

JORDAN TIMES Views Shultz' Terrorism Remarks

JN051225 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 5 Apr 84 p 4

[Editorial: "The White Broom Missed A Corner"]

[Text] We are delighted to find ourselves in agreement with the statements of United States Secretary of State George Shultz earlier this week, condemning "state-supported terrorism" as a threat that must be dealt with forcefully. Mr. Shultz has got this one right. State-backed terrorism is a vile, terrible phenomenon that threatens the very structure of civlisation as we know it. It is morally outrageous and shocking, and should engage the concerted attention of the world's leaders until it is stamped out.

Of course, Mr. Shultz refers to such states as Syria, Iran, Libya and North Korea when he talks about state-backed terrorism. He does not, strangely, talk about the activities of Israel — partly, one suspects, because the activities of the state of Israel are financed and usually defended by the Government of the United States, whose highest foreign policy representative Mr. Shultz is. But we suggest to Mr. Shultz that he should enhance his already sterling assault on international immorality by making the sweep of his white broom all-inclusive and undiscriminating.

Terrorism supported by States, and acts of terror and indiscriminate attacks committed by the armed forces of sovereign states, are only slightly different things, but both are worthy of the condemnation that Mr. Shultz assigns only to the former. We agree with his basic thesis, but we think he would have a much stronger case if he were less discriminating in both the applicability of his moral concerns and the objects of his desire for international action.

Israel's attacks agaisnt neighbouring Arab states are well documented, and well known to all, especially to those in the United States who finance the government and Armed Forces of Israel. Israel's actions should be subjected to the same scrutiny that Washington applies to other countries if Mr. Shultz really wishes to restore some of the credibility that even he admits America has lost in the Middle East.

AR-RA'Y Criticizes French Jerusalem Operation

JN051105 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0515 GMT 5 Apr 84

[From the press reivew]

[Text] Under the headline "It Is the Occupation To Be Condemned," *AR-RA'Y* says: The French Foreign Ministry was not forced or called on to express its condemnation of the Palestinian fedayeen operation in Jerusalem. By making this condemnation, it adopted a stand which is surprising and regrettable, and which contradicts with the philosophy adopted and practiced by the French resistance against the Nazi occupation of France and the collaborators in the occupation during World War II.

The background of the suspect U.S. stand which condemned the operation is based on faked U.S. policy and involvement in supporting the aggressors, and running after the Jewish vote. Nobody knows anything about the background of the French stand; and nobody wants to jump to conclusions at this time.

The French Foreign Ministry and others, know that the Jerusalem resistance operation is partially the outcome of Israel's policy of terrorism, usurpation, and intransigence. The operation is also a partial and natural outcome of Israel's continued rejection of peace. Therefore, the French condemnation of the operation is illogical and unfair.

AR-RA'Y continues: It would be better for the French Foreign Ministry to realize that the reputation and position which France gained in the region were the result of its fair stands which are independent of the U.S. collusive role. It would be dangerous and incorrect if the French position which supports the Palestine cause is fragmented into partial positions — some supporting the cause by merely issuing statements, and others condemning the resistance for the sake of the cause when weapons are used.

It is true to say that nobody has forgetten France's support for the Palestinian leadership during its departure from Tripoli — a positive and courageous stand, because it was an application of the comprehensive stand which supports the cause. However, this matter is one thing, and fragmenting the comprehensive stand into contradictory partial stands is another. It is no secret that the French Foreign Ministry's condemnation of the fedayeen operation in Jerusalem is a sample of this strange fragmentation.

AR-RA'Y concludes: France, which has had the bitter experience of the Nazi occupation of its territories and resisted this occupation with arms inside and outside, should understand more than anybody else the legitimacy of the Palestinian resistance of the Zionist occupation. It should understand that the extent and forms of the resistance are the outcome of the occupation for which the oppressors must not be condemned. Whatever caused the resistance — the Israeli occupation — is what should be condemned.

Reportage on Visit of Advisers to Damascus

Political, Security Aspects Discussed

JN060755 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Last night, fighting in Beirut, the [southern] suburb, and the mountain flared up, while the security committee of the Higher Political Security Committee was meeting to formulate provisions for the comprehensive plan for a disengagement of forces among the disputing parties. Clashes intensified on the contact lines between the Lebanese Army and the forces opposed to the regime, especially in the Ra's an-Nab' area of Beirut where tank fire was exchanged. This escalation was accompanied by indiscriminate shelling of residential quarters in both East and West Beirut by all parties. The shelling and the fighting stopped after 3 hours in Beirut last night, but continued intermittently on the Suq al-Gharb axis in the mountain.

Amidst this atmosphere, which confirms the failure of all attempts that were exerted within the Higher Political Security Committee to entrench a cease-fire, one's attention is once again drawn to Damascus, or more specifically, toward the imminent summit conference between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Amin al-Jumayyil. Lebanese, Syrian, and Saudi sources unanimously believe that the summit will be held either at the end of this week or early next week.

Intensive Lebanese-Saudi-Syrian contacts were held in Damascus yesterday in order to prepare the agenda of the talks between the Lebanese and Syrian presidents. President al-Jumayyil's envoys, Jean 'Ubayd and Michel Samahah, met for a long time with Syrian Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. The discussion dealt with the political and security aspects of settling the Lebanese crisis. After this, Khaddam received Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri, who also met with Syrian Vice President Rif'at al-Asad. In the evening, Jean 'Ubayd returned to Beirut to submit an urgent report to President al-Jumayyil on the results of his contacts in Damascus. Michel Samahah remained in the Syrian capital to complete preparations for the imminent Syrian-Lebanese summit.

'Ubayd Returns to Beirut

NC051844 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Informed sources have disclosed to Voice of Lebanon that the Lebanese-Syrian summit will be held next week. Jean 'Ubayd returned this afternoon to Beirut while Michel Samahah and Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri remained in Damascus. President Amin al-Jumayyil will receive a report from 'Ubayd tonight on the results of the talks held with Syrian officials, led by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. Those talks focused on two principal aims: the final date for the Lebanese-Syrian summit and the current situation in Lebanon in light of the work of the Higher Political Security Committee, which is facing some obstacles that prevent the completion of its task in the manner agreed on. The same sources expect the summit to achieve important steps in the security and political fields on the basis of Syria's stances, which have stressed more than once the need to implement the Lausanne resolutions and to put an end to the Lebanese crisis. It has been learned that 'Ubayd might go back to Damascus tomorrow and return to Beirut with Samahah with clear results.

The Syrian Presidential Palace spokesman announced that no official date has yet been fixed for the meeting between Presidents al-Jumayyil and al-Asad. He added that contacts between the two presidents continue and that Syria continues to extend assistance to Lebanese brothers in order to overcome difficulties and to achieve Lebanese conciliation. Damascus radio described the atmosphere prevailing during the Lebanese-Syrian talks as excellent, but did not disclose any details out of concern for the success of the commendable endeavors that are being exerted to save Lebanon and the Lebanese, as it claimed. The radio said Samahah and Al-Hariri will meet tonight with 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

It is expected that Walid Jublatt will arrive in Damascus later to take part in the contacts underway regardingLebanon.

The Voice of Lebanon political correspondent quoted well-informed sources as saying that the regional atmosphere is tense. There is the threat of a confrontation that might have a direct effect on the situation in Lebanon. At the same time, preparations continue for the summit, which will come after the Lausanne conference and the abrogation of the May accord. It will be a review of the Lausanne resolutions that have been implemented and of the obstacles that prevent the implementation of others. The security situation has not calmed down as was expected, though Syria is pressing to consolidate calm.

Salim Calls Meeting on UNIFIL Mandate 7 Apr

NC051606 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Foreign Minister Elie Salim today summoned diplomatic representatives of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and representatives of the countries which supply contingents of the UN forces in south Lebanon to a meeting to be held on Saturday. Consultations during the meeting will center on the renewal of the UNIFIL mandate for another 6 months in view of the meeting of the Security Council next week to discuss this issue. The meeting will also provide opportunity for an exchange of views on ways of activating and expanding the mission of the forces in the south. Salim is expected to report on the results of talks held on Tuesday when the UN Under Secretary General Brian Urquhart visited Beirut.

Minister Elie Salim held a lengthy meeting today with Secretary General Fu'ad at-Turk, Political Affairs Director Khalil Makkawi, and International Organizations Director Ghazi Shidyaq to discuss the question of UNIFIL. The foreign minister today cabled instructions to the Lebanese delegate to the United Nations, Rashid Fakhuri, on the position of Lebanon on the issue of the UNIFIL mandate. The foreign minister also sent a memorandum to all Lebanese missions abroad in which he outlined political developments and gave instructions for new diplomatic initiatives. Secretary General Fu'ad at-Turk met today with a delegation of honorary consuls in Lebanon to discuss new orga-

nizational measures introduced by the ministry to regulate the work of honorary consuls in Lebanon.

Shidyaq met separately during the day with the Dutch charge d'affaires and the first counselor of the French Embassy to discuss the Lebanese request for the extension of the UNIFIL mandate.

Cabinet Decides To Resume Relations With Libya

NC060706 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] An official source has said that during its recent meeting the cabinet decided to resume diplomatic relations with the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah after having frozen these relations some time ago.

Progress Made on Military Disengagement

NC060716 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] The military subcommittee of the Higher Political Security Committee held a meeting yesterday evening which lasted until after midnight. Informed sources said that some progress has been achieved. The subcommittee has reached agreement on a comprehensive plan for the disengagement of forces on all fronts. Three points remain to be resolved. These pertain to the method of disengagement on three axes on the contact lines.

The sources said that the subcommittee has put together minutes containing all the disengagement points with all their technical details after defining them on maps in order to prevent any problems when implementation takes place. The minutes will be signed by all the parties after they are submitted to the Higher Political Security Committee, which may meet again at the beginning of next week to announce the start of the disengagement operation.

The sources affirmed that the three points are not significant ones and can be solved. They pointed out that the directorate general of the Internal Security Forces, which will assume the disengagement task, has begun preparing the necessary manpower, numbering about 2,000. Military servicemen will also be co-opted into this force. The sources pointed out that the distance which will separate the combatants will not be uniform on all axes. Different criteria will be adopted for each axis in order to separate the forces.

The sources said that after the implementation of the disengagement plan, the discussion will focus on solutions to other problems, such as the consolidation of the cease-fire and the reopening of the port and airport. The higher committee found difficulty in consolidating the cease-fire without the disengagement of forces. Therefore, it devoted most of its meetings to this subject. The sources said that the implementation of the disengagement will take place after the required security force has been prepared, and that this may be in less than 1 week from today.

Committee Rejects Army Rebuilding Bill

NC051544 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The parliamentary finance committee today began a study of the overall draft budget after having approved the individual budgets of the ministries and state agencies. The meeting today was chaired by Deputy Rene Mu'awwad and attended by acting Finance Minister Elie Salim. The committee decided to reject Article 35 of the budget bill, which calls for the allocation of 4 billion Lebanese pounds to finance a plan for the rebuilding of the Army. Committee sources indicated that the article contained an unconstitutional provision for the introduction of new taxes. In a statement later, Deputy Mu'awwad said that a strong and effective Army was a necessity for an independent state. The committee has decided to reject Article 35, which provides for special massive allocations for the rebuilding of the Army, awaiting the submission of a draft law which would provide details of plans to rebuild the Army.

Army Command Denies Ties With Southern Army

NC060528 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0415 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] The Lebanese Army Command has affirmed its adherence to the unity of the military establishment and to the Army's indisputable right to be present on all Lebanese territory, especially in the south.

The command denied that it has any connection with the army of south Lebanon. It rejected any attempt by this army or by any other quarter to prevent the Lebanese Army from discharging its sacred duty of liberating the homeland or to undermine the dignity of the military establishment and its right and unity — soldiers, officers, and command.

Radio Transmission Cut Called 'Grave Matter'

LD061054 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0839 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Beirut, 6 Apr (KUNA) — The question of cutting the transmission capabilities of the official Lebanese Government radio is now beginning to generate repercussions in political quarters. Fifteen days have passed since external transmission, which is done from 'Amshit, controlled by the Lebanese Phalangists, was cut off. Informed sources told KUNA that cutting transmission from the radio's headquarters in the As-Sana'i area of West Beirut was motivated by those who desire partition. The sources said that those who have taken control of the transmitters at 'Amshit were trying to set up a new radio station which would broadcast news different from that broadcast by the As-Sana'i radio.

Political circles consider this cutting off of transmission facilities to be a grave matter and a prelude to the partitioning of Lebanon and its official institutions. It should be recalled that the 'Amshit transmitter has a 100 kilowatt capacity while that at As-Sana'i is only 4 kilowatts. Thus, the official Lebanese radio can only be heard in Beirut.

Lebanese Information Minister Roger Shaykhani said last week that he had initiated an investigation into the "technical" fault in the transmission. However, events show that the fault was not technical but political.

Franjiyah, U.S. Ambassador Discuss Situation

NC051548 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 1530 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] [Former] President Sulayman Franjiyah received U.S. Ambassador to Lebanon Reginald Bartholomew and the embassy's first secretary at 1245 this afternoon. The discussions at the meeting dealt with the situation in Lebanon and the pressure that Washington must exert on the Israeli enemy in order to make it withdraw its occupying army from Lebanon without any restrictions or conditions.

Karami Meets Bartholomew, Criticizes U.S.

NC051847 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1730 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Following his meeting today with U.S. Ambassador Reginald Bartholomew, [former] Prime Minister Rashid Karami made a statement blaming the United States for Lebanon's troubles. These troubles, Karami said, are due to the poor vision characterizing U.S. policies and practices. Moreover, Karami accused Israel of coveting Lebanese resources. Israel, Karami said, wants to bring Lebanon under its yoke.

PSP Delegation Meets With Soviet Ambassador

NC051543 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] A delegation of the Progressive Socialist Party, which included former Minister Marwan Hamadah, vice president of the party Muhsin Dallul, and Secretary Fu'ad Salman, met today with Soviet Ambassador to Lebanon Aleksandr Soldatov. The participants viewed the outcome of the visit of the Soviet delegation, which was headed by Karen Brutents, and discussed bilateral relations between Lebanon and the USSR as well as the general conditions prevailing in Lebanon and the Arab world.

On the other hand former Minister Hamadah today contacted Jean 'Ubayd [presidential adviser] who later left for Damascus. Hamadah also held a series of contacts which included the President of the Progressive Socialist Party Walid Junblatt and the Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri.

Shi'ite Council Calls for Israeli Withdrawal

NC051550 Beirut Domestic Service in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The Higher Shi'ite Council today called for a Lebanese complaint to the Security Council and urged the authorities to propose to the council a plan for the withdrawal of Israeli occupation forces in the south and their replacement by an international force. The Shi'ite Council, at a meeting chaired by Shaykh Muhammad Mahdi Shams ad-Din, urged the authorities to request action by the United Nations in keeping with Resolutions 425, 508, and 509 which provide for the withdrawal of Israel from the south and the deployment of an international force. The Shi'ite Council also called on permanent Security Council members to approve such a plan. In a separate action, the Shi'ite Council condemned and forbade participation in the so-called south Lebanon army which is described as a collaborating force similar to the so-called Shi'ite Army and the Border Guard which the Israeli occupation forces tried to set up previously.

RFL Says Situation Deteriorating in Beirut

NC051750 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The security situation deteriorated both on the mountain and in Beirut this afternoon. Several citizens were injured on the Al-Matahin-Al-Barid axis and one was injured in Wadi ash-Shahrur, which was hit by several artillery and rocket shells. The outskirts of Al-Kahhalah and Arayya were also shelled from 'Alayh and Durhur al-'Ibadiyah. Meanwhile, clashes intensified on the mountain when Army positions in Suq al-Gharb, its perimeter, and Ra's al-Jabal received artillery fire from Junblattist positions in the 'Aytat, 'Aynab, 'Ayn 'Nub, Shimlan, Baysur, Kayfun, and 'Alayh areas. As night wore on, the Jumbhur Road received heavy sniper fire, while clashes were being fought with machine guns and B-7's on the Kafr Shima-Sciences College-Al-Hadath axis. Al-Hadath is now receiving sniper fire from Ash-Shuwayfat, Hayy as-Sullum, and Al-Laylaki. The situation along the [Beirut] contact lines is also tense, particularly between the market, Primo, and Sodeco areas and Al-Barjawi. Mortars, B-7's, and heavy machine guns are being used there. Despite a cease-fire agreement due to go into effect at 1830, the Junblattists and their allies continued their aggressions on peaceful residential areas.

Cease-Fire Ends Clashes in Beirut, Mountain

NC060624 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] We note that an agreement reached at 0700 on a cease-fire has ended the morning clashes on the axes of Beirut and the mountain.

Bomb Thrown at AS-SAFIR Offices in West Beirut

NC052028 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 2015 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Despite contradictory information on the explosion that took place this evening in the Al-Hamra' area [in West Beirut] the Voice of Lebanon has learned that gunmen in a car threw a bomb at the entrance of the building housing the *AS-SAFIR* newspaper on Emile Iddih Street. The explosion caused material damage to adjacent buildings. This is the second time that the *AS-SAFIR* offices have been attacked in the past 10 days. It is known that relations between Talal Salman, the owner of the paper, and the Socialists are lukewarm.

Syrian, Palestinian, Progressive Forces on Alert

NC052115 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2105 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Local correspondents today reported that Syrian, Palestinian, and Lebanese progressive forces in the Al-Biqa' in central Lebanon have been put on maximum alert for the past 3 days as a precaution against any possible Israeli attack.

It was reported that schools in the villages close to the Israeli-Syrian cease-fire line in the area were closed until further notice for the same reason.

USSR Warns of Israeli Attack in Al-Biqa'

GF061220 Doha QNA in Arabic 1155 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Kuwait, 6 Apr (QNA) — The Kuwaiti paper *AS-SIYASAH* reports from Beirut that the Lebanese Government was recently warned by the Soviet Union that the Israeli forces will carry out a military operation against Syrian and Palestinian positions in the Al-Biqa' valley prior to the Israeli Knesset elections.

AS-SIYASAH says that Lebanon fears that an Israeli incursion will undermine negotiations among the Lebanese parties and damage the process of national reconciliation so that Israel can achieve its old dream of splitting Lebanon into sectarian statelets.

Syria Reportedly Sends Forces to Al-Biqa'

NC061305 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] According to information received by the Voice of Lebanon, a Syrian T-62 and T-72 tank battalion has arrived in Al-Biqa' in the past 48 hours and has been deployed on the line extending from Barr Ilyas and 'Ammiq.

A battalion [as heard] of rocket launchers has also been brought into the area and has been deployed in Dahr al-Baydar, al-Murayjat, and [word indistinct] and as far as the Upper al-Matn area. At the same time, special units forces were seen leaving their positions in Shtawrah, Al-Murayjat, and Dahr al-Baydar in the direction of the Ba'labakk area.

A rotation of forces was noticed in Shabraqiyah and Qab'it. A festival and procession which were scheduled to be held in Ba'labakk on the occasion of the Ba'th Party day have been cancelled because of general fear [of an Israeli attack].

The information received by the Voice of Lebanon adds that the Syrian military command has instructed Palestinian gunmen to move to the confrontation line with Israel after declaring a state of alert in their ranks.

Indeed, large numbers of popular front gunmen left for the confrontation line equipped with personal and heavy weapons. Extreme caution and fear prevail in Al-Biqa', and residents have been seen leaving the area for more secure places.

Israelis Reportedly Moving Equipment to Al-Biqa'

NC060606 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0549 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] It was noticed yesterday that Israel, in cooperation with border militias, has moved to the Al-Biqa' front a large part of its military vehicles and equipment and has deployed them on the Kafr Mishki axis. A convoy of tracked vehicles was also seen towing heavy artillery. The enemy Israeli forces also moved tanks and tracked vehicles which could not be counted. A delegation of senior officers of the Israeli command visited the Al-Biqa' front lines and surveyed and reconnoitered Syrian positions from the Al-Birah heights.

National Resistance Operations Continuing

NC051223 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] In the south, Lebanese national resistance operations are continuing against occupation forces and against the Israeli enemy's arbitrary actions against the citizens there. The occupation forces have continued to isolate the south from the rest of the country by keeping the Barit-Jazzin Road closed. At 1145 today there was an explosion in An-Najmah Square in Sidon. The Israeli forces immediately opened intensive fire and combed the area. It has been learned that six civilians were wounded. Meanwhile, the occupation forces stormed Ma'rakah and arrested Ahmad Khalil Dib, 31, a teacher in the state school, and led him away for questioning. The Israeli forces also closed the Bisri Bridge to traffic in both directions. They also continued to bulldoze the groves at the southern entrance to Sidon near Martyrs Square, opposite the Nuns School.

Intensive shooting was heard at 0030 today in the vicinity of the occupied government building in Sidon. Some shops and buildings in the area were hit and damaged. An electricity transformer was also hit. The electricity supply was interrupted. At 0500 today intensive bursts of fire from medium-caliber machine guns were heard. Work at Sidon Port was resumed today after a suspension of 2 days.

VOL on Grenade Attack on Israeli Patrol in Sidon

NC051318 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] It has been reported from the south that a hand grenade was thrown today while an Israeli patrol was passing within the perimeter of the An-Najmah Square in Sidon. The Israeli forces cut the roads leading to the area and carried out a search operation, during which Fawzi Gadarli was wounded. Before noon today, Israeli forces reopened the Sidon harbor and permitted the unloading of ships laden with food and other commodities. Furthermore, Israeli forces reopened the Jazzin-Baqir road at 0800, only to close it again for 90 minutes.

In another development, Israeli forces tightened their security measures at the two border [crossing] points of Metulla and Ra's an-Naqurah and banned the issuance of entry permits to Israel. However, Israel prepared special permits for traders.

2 Israeli Soldiers Killed in Sidon Attack

NC051429 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1330 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Enemy soldiers opened automatic weapons fire at citizens in Sidon following the death of two Zionist soldiers during an attack launched by members of the national resistance against an enemy convoy. The convoy was transporting prefabricated houses when it was attacked on Riyad as-Sulh Street with rockets and machine guns. One of the enemy vehicles was destroyed. Afterwards, the enemy encircled the city with troops and set up checkpoints to search for the attackers. Enemy patrols were seen roaming Sidon streets. The city is still under siege.

Israeli Patrols Deployed in Areas in South

NC060816 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0800 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] According to reports from the south this morning, Israeli mechanized and foot patrols are deployed in most areas of the south, particuarly in the main towns. The reports said the roads to and from the south are still closed by Israeli enemy forces, particularly the coastal road, the Bisri Bridge, and the Batir-Jazzin road. The occupation forces are permitting some vehicles and pedestrians to pass on the Batir-Jazzin road on their way from the south and are preventing entry into the south on this road.

RFL Interviews Israeli Prime Minister Shamir

NC060641 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] In a press statement to Radio Free Lebanon, Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said Israel is now plunged into an election campaign, which makes a n-depth discussion of the Lebanese problem a complicated matter. Shamir explained that it is now accepted that there are common interests between the state of Israel and the Lebanese people, because it is in Israel's interest that a free and independent Lebanon exist on its border, free from every foreign occupation and under a sovereign government. We, said Shamir to Radio Free Lebanon, want a Lebanese state unthreatened by any foreign terrorist force, precisly as we want this for Israel.

The Israeli prime minister affirmed that his country appreciates the attitude of the Lebanese Christians, who have always understood the common interests between Israel and Lebanon and who have been the Lebanese party that supported the 17 May agreement. He explained that despite the recent events, he believes that the common interests will be translated into reality on the ground.

Regarding Israel's concept of the Christians' role in Lebanon, Shamir told Radio Free Lebanon that his country strives to reach a kind of border security with Lebanon, which is an obvious issue. Therefore, it is not in our interest to antagonize any Lebanese community. We are fully convinced that the Christian community in Lebanon has realized the need for the establishment of relations of friendship with Israel, but in the meantime we want to reach the same understanding with all other communities. Therefore, said the Israeli prime minister, we seek good relations with all communities for the sake of the interest of a single Lebanon on the Israeli border. Concerning Israel's stand on the possibility of new Syrian attacks on Christian areas, Shamir said: We want to see Lebanon liberated from every Syrian occupation. Accordingly, we support the departure of all foreign forces from Lebanon; therefore, we will not be indifferent toward any possible danger which our Lebanese friends might face. This is our feeling and firm conviction.

Answering a question on what kind of Lebanon Israel prefers on its border, Shamir said that the nature of the regime in Lebanon and its neutrality are matters that are decided only by Lebanon and the Lebanese. As for me, I submitted in the past the idea of declaring Lebanon neutral in the Arab-Israeli conflict. The Lebanese people must decide. On our part we want the best relations of friendship with the Lebanese and with the Lebanese state.

Concerning the possibility of reaching security arrangements following the abrogation of the 17 May agreement, the Israeli prime minister said it is difficult to speak about this subject in light of current and existing conditions in Lebanon. However, on our part we are prepared for any security negotiations with any party that wants to reach arrangements with us. Asked whether the Christians' return to Ash-Shuf is part of these arrangements, Shamir said I cannot enter in details, but what can be said is that if understanding on this subject is necessary, then it is necessary to work seriously to reach a practical and effective agreement. Asked whether Israel views all communities from the same perspective, Shamir said: I would not say this, but we appreciate the Christian stand which was the first to understand the need for the establishment of relations of friendship with the state of Israel. We will not forget this stand by the Christians. I repeat, said Shamir, that we wish all the Lebanese communities would agree among themselves concerning relations with Israel. Therefore, we are ready to make every serious effort to draw closer the stands of the Lebanese communities.

Asked how long Israel will tolerate Syria's military strength which prevents the Arab states from establishing peace with Israel, Shamir told Radio Free Lebanon: Our people are an ancient and very patient people. But while seeking to establish peace with our neighbors, we are always prepared to defend our interests and independence. In any case, we know that we have friends in Lebanon. These friends are particularly the Lebanese Christians. This is very important for Israel, especially with regard to its relations with surrounding countries. Concluding, Shamir said: As far as we are concerned, the election campaign does not change our stands toward Lebanon, especially with regard to supporting it.

Reports on Israeli Military Movements Cited

JN051335 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Occupied territories — An urgent dispatch from the occupied territories says that an unusual situation exists in the southern Lebanese border areas. KUNA says this situation is very similar to the one that existed before the Israeli invasion of Lebanon. Israeli military movements were noticed in the direction of southern Lebanon, indicating Israel is preparing for a swift aggression in Lebanon.

The enemy radio had reported yesterday that all military leave wassuspended as of yesterday and that a maximum state of alert was declared among the Israeli forces in Lebanon and in the northern part of occupied Palestine.

In Kuwait, the newspaper *AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM* warned of an imminent Israeli aggression against Syria through coordination with the United States. The paper expected this aggression to be one of the options which U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz spoke about after the withdrawal of the Marines from Lebanon.

The Kuwaiti paper *AL-QABAS* said that any Israeli military incursion inside Lebanese territories will cause Israel immense losses.

A REUTER report from the occupied territories says that Shamir's government intends to embark on quick military action in the hope of winning votes in the coming elections.

On the other hand, the Gulf papers praised the Jerusalem operation and said the United States and Israel's defenders must understand that Israel's security is not the key to peace and stability in the region.

Israelis Said To Prepare Raids on Syria, PDRY

JN060802 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0315 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] London —Diplomatic Arab sources in London have warned that the Zionist enemy is currently preparing to carry out raids against Arab positions in several Arab countries. These sources stressed that the Zionist enemy is preparing to carry out these raids against positions in Arab countries, including Syria and the PDRY, under the pretext of avenging the courageous operation that the Arab fedayeen carried out in occupied Jerusalem a few days ago.

ATH-THAWRAH on Israel's 'Maximum' State of Alert

JN061004 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0945 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 6 Apr (SANA) — In today's editorial, *ATH-THAWRAH* says Washington and Tel Aviv are preparing for a large-scale military action in the region, and the intensive Israeli concentrations coincide with placing the Zionist army at the maximum state of alert, and with the U.S. officials' escalating threats against Syria.

ATH-THAWRAH continues: Washington and Tel Aviv are determined to pursue the game of escalating tension in the Middle East and to bet on the policy of force, which has proven to be unfeasible. The paper says that this bet may make Washington and Tel Aviv launch a joint military action against Syria. The paper adds: However, the results will not be in their interests, because Syria is not alone in the battle. It is supported by the Arab masses and the forces of steadfastness and resistance qualify it to continue confronting the imperialist and Zionist forces. The paper says that Lebanon's experience must have become a good lesson for the United States and Israel.

ATH-THAWRAH concludes by saying that the determination of Washington and Tel Aviv to exacerbate tension in the region hides the reality of the imperialist-Zionist dilemma in the Middle East. It is obvious that Syria is determined to deepen this dilemma, because it is fully aware that its battle with the United States and Israel will not stop while the Arab territories remain under occupation and the Palestinian people's rights remain usurped.

Damascus Radio Scores U.S., Israeli War Threats

JN051456 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Every one who follows the statements made by senior U.S. Administration officials and Zionist enemy leaders will notice that the tone of threats has been renewed and the smell of gunpowder is issuing from every statement being made these days. George Shultz, who has not stopped his threatening and rancorous language, emphasized in his last statement yesterday that U.S. political principles are essentially based on the use of force and that peace, as he understands it in his capacity as U.S. secretary of state, cannot be separated from war and that diplomacy must be backed by force to be effective.

Because U.S. and Israeli statements pass through the same channel and because what is said by the Israelis is inevitably echoed in the corridors of the U.S. White House, the language of playing with fire conveyed by the Shultz statement coincides with the same language being reiterated in Israel, which is making direct threats against Syria.

Both U.S. and Zionist officials admit that their common objectives still clash with the Syrian defiance. Therefore, they may have found the excuses now to spark a war in the Middle East so long as the U.S. and Israeli allies are of the opinion that war is their only means to deal with or influence Syria. We are not saying here that war is what would enable the United States and Israel to force Syria to go back on its present stand. This is because no power on earth can force Syria to make the slightest concession on its declared firm stand. The allies of aggression in Washington, Tel Aviv and the capitals of treason and defeatism may be able to prepare for a war or a plot, but they will not be able to guarantee the results they are imagining or dreaming.

Those tyrannical allies may be able to find excuses and justifications for their aggression about which they are talking publicly,

but they will not be able to impose their will on a nation whose struggle is led by Syria in defense of right, peace, and freedom.

The United States has already tried the method of force, about which its secretary of state has spoken. It massed scores of warships and aircraft carriers. But what was the result? The Shultz agreement fell, because Syria said "no" to it from the very first day of its signature. The U.S. Marines and their European allies left Lebanese territory because Syria would not permit the Arabs' enemies to become the trustees of Lebanon's territory, the lives of its sons, and the future of its people and territory. Syria achieved all this without taking up arms against the United States or declaring war on it such as the war the U.S. President declared on Syria. Perhaps, the U.S. Administration is certain now, as it was before, that an armed confrontation with Syria is serious and that Syria is not easy to swallow up.

Therefore, if the advocates of war have forgotten this fact, then they are undoubtedly misled or have lost part of their memory. For some time now, this steadfast country has been affirming its strategy which is based on an unbreakable balance. For some time also, Syria has been declaring that the Middle East decision can only be an Arab decision. Syria is now translating its words into actions by rejecting U.S. and Israeli threats which seek to weaken the Arab decisionmaking or become the method of the powerful to carry out the plans they are aspiring to or dreaming of.

When the U.S. Administration's secretary of state says his country's policy moves along two parallel lines — diplomacy and force; or when the Zionist war minister declares Israel will take its revenge on Syria; or when Shamir announces his government is considering the inevitable step, we in Syria will not make threats, but we are confident of the results. We are determined that justice should triumph in the end. Our faith in our cause and just struggle derives its strength from the world's understanding of justice and peace and from the determination of our nation's masses to triumph and achieve the pan-Arab objective of liberating the Arab territory and man.

Khaddam Receives Senior Lebanese Advisers

JN051236 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Louis Faris dispatch from Damascus]

[Excerpts] Jean 'Ubayd and Michel Samahah, two of President Amin al-Jumayyil's senior advisers, arrived in Damascus this morning. Immediately upon arrival, they were received by Vice President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam. It was noted that this visit follows the telephone contact yesterday evening between Presidents Hafiz al-Asad and Amin al-Jumayyil. An official source stated that the discussion during this telephone contact dealt with issues of mutual interest and the efforts which are currently being exerted to fix a cease-fire, particularly as all parties are cooperating in this respect to put an end to all forms of fighting. Reports here have mentioned that the Lebanese Higher Political Security Committee has achieved progress on disengaging the fighters in Lebanon. Meanwhile, Saudi mediator Rafiq al-Hariri arrived here today and has been meeting with Khaddam for the past 30 minutes.

A ranking diplomatic source cited Khaddam as saying that President Amin al-Jumayyil may visit Damascus during the next few days. Walid Junblatt is expected to return to Damascus later today to participate in the current contacts here.

In response to the call by the spiritual leader of the Druze community in Israel to the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine [DFLP] on the Israeli prisoner Samir As'ad Hammud, DFLP spokesman Jamil Hilal said today that in response to the call by Shaykh Amin Tarif, the DFLP will release prisoner Samir As'ad Hammud immediately after the Israeli authorities respond to the conditions set by the DFLP. These conditions consist of releasing several Palestinian strugglers from Israeli prisons who have been listed in the statement issued by the front on this issue. Hilal added: We urge Shaykh Amin Tarif to exert all efforts to secure a quick response to these conditions.

USSR Cultural Delegation Departs 5 Apr

JN051422 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 5 Apr (SANA) — Yuriy Kirichenko, chief of the Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries Department in the USSR Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and his accompanying cultural delegation left Damascus this afternoon after a 1-week visit to Syria.

During this visit, the friendly USSR educational delegation held talks with Syrian Ministry of Education officials on the development and promotion of cooperation in culture and education. A program implementing the cultural agreement between Syria and the Soviet Union for 1984-1985 was concluded during the visit.

PDRY Official Arrives in Damascus 5 Apr

JN051914 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1855 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 5 Apr (SANA) — Comrade 'Abd al-Ghani 'Abd al-Qadir, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the YSP Central Committee, arrived in Damascus this evening.

He was received at Damascus International Airport by Muhammad Jabir Bajbuj, member of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party National Command; a number of party comrades; the PDRY ambassador in Damascus; and the embassy staff.

Az-Zu'bi Receives Iranian Message 5 Apr

JN051528 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Damascus, 5 Apr (SANA) — People's Assembly Speaker Mahmud az-Zu'bi received a written message today from Hashemi-Rafsanjani, speaker of the Iranian Consultative Council. The message deals with the situation in the region, bilateral relations, and parliamentary affairs.

Mahmud Hashemi, the Iranian charge d'affaires in Damascus, delivered the message when Az-Zu'bi received him here today. The Iranian charge d'affaires expressed his country's appreciation and support for Syria's stands and distinguished role under President Hafiz al-Asad against the Zionist-imperialist designs in the region.

Az-Zu'bi stressed his appreciation for the Islamic Iranian revolution's stands toward the Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian question. He aiso stressed the importance of joint struggle against the hostile designs of Zionist-U.S. imperialism.

Arens on Egyptian Military Activity in Sinai
TA060549 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] We did not give up the Sinai just so we could have an Egyptian ambassador in Tel Aviv for 3 years, said the defense minister. Arens said that the Egyptian military activity in the Sinai is contrary to the spirit of the peace treaty. This treaty limits the number of tanks, APC's, artillery pieces, and soldiers that the Egyptians can deploy on the eastern side of the Suez Canal. Moshe Arens said, however, that the Egyptians are preparing an infrastructure for an army.

In a talk with our military correspondent, the defense minister said that this is a cause for concern.

[Begin Arens recording] The military clause of the peace treaty does not define the size of the infrastructure that can be built on the eastern side of the canal. It is clear to me, and I think to the Egyptians as well, that the meaning of the military clause is that the Egyptians will not deploy more than one division on the eastern side of the canal.

It is a fact, however, that they are preparing an infrastructure for an army, an infrastructure much larger than is needed for a division, and this naturally is a cause for much concern because this makes it possible for much larger forces than are permitted by the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty to enter the area.

Relations between countries are developing relations. We hoped, and we still hope, that the Israeli-Egyptian peace treaty would be the basis for sincere and real relations of peace, relations that would be stable on a long-term basis. We did not concede the entire Sinai just so an Egyptian ambassador could be sent to Tel Aviv for 3 years. We expected to be compensated for the concessions we made with full normalization or completely normal bilateral relations. It is difficult to say now whether this will ever happen. We are doing all that we can; we are in the position of a man that has already paid for his ticket and now desires to reach his destination. This final destination of stable long-term relations, however, has not yet been reached. I hope we will reach it. [end recording]

POST Interviews Arens on Lebanon, Syria
TA060739 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Apr 84 p 5

[Report on interview with Defense Minister Moshe Arens by Hirsh Goodman in the former's Tel Aviv office 2 April]

[Text] With Defence Minister Moshe Arens, it is always difficult to tell whether he is at the start or the end of a work day. We met him in his Tel Aviv office at five o'clock one afternoon this week. His desk was meticulously tidy, his manner cordial — even warm — and he seemed unpressed for time, though the diary on his desk proved otherwise.

This was the first interview Arens has given since the recent "disaster" in *THE NEW YORK TIMES*, which had quoted Arens as claiming — among other things — that his American counterpart, Caspar Weinberger, was in need of psychiatric help — something the defence minister vociferously denies.

"The reporter and her husband were pressing me about Weinberger and his Jewishness," said Arens. "They asked me if I thought that this had anything to do with his attitude, and all I said was I could not give the answer, and perhaps they should address the question to a psychologist."

The quotation in *THE NEW YORK TIMES* is not characteristic of Arens. His words are carefully chosen, and he never lets down his guard. There is a sincerity about him that gives credence to his statements.

In the year he has been in office, Arens has not had an easy time. He inherited a messy situation in Lebanon; a defence budget that had been drastically cut; tension in Judaea, Samaria and Gaza; a general staff that had been decimated by the findings of the Kahan Commission; and an army that was having trouble keeping key personnel in uniform.

Many of those problems remain unresolved. The army is still in Lebanon; money is still tight; there is no quiet in Judaea, Samaria or Gaza; terror is on the increase; and the peace with Egypt seems to be getting colder.

Add to this that Arens has had to fight a battle not only against outside critics of the government's defence policy, but against some of his colleagues around the Cabinet table as well, and one can assume that the past year has not been an easy one.

Question: For a year you have been saying that you want the army out of Lebanon, yet we are still there. How much longer will we be living with Lebanon?

Answer: We've been living with Lebanon since 1948.

Question: We have seen the appointment of a new commander for the south Lebanese Army, and we have heard about plans to build up this army to a point where the IDF will be able to withdraw from most of the western sector of southern Lebanon in three to four months. Is this something we could look forward to, or is it more wishful thinking?

Answer: I think it is not impossible. And it is certainly a goal that we would like to achieve. But we have already learned that in Lebanon it is very difficult to make any kind of accurate predictions and though things in southern Lebanon may be just a little more secure than things are in the areas in which we're not deployed, I wouldn't want to say anything with undue confidence.

Question: You don't think that the internal atmosphere in Israel, elections and so on, could prejudice that goal?

Answer: I don't think so, and I don't want to believe it, because Lebanon is so important to us, and because it involves the lives of people, the lives of soldiers, and the security of Israel. I certainly cannot think in terms of making some move that is directed at some electoral fall-out, even though it may not be the best move in terms of our primary interest: the security of our

people. As long as I'm here, We will do whatever is necessary regardless of elections, even though this might sound self-serving and some people may smile cynically.

Question: Will the absence of a move, also be making a move?

Answer: Absolutely. It's a difficult situation, I think in some ways an unusual situation, for Israel in the sense that operational questions and decisions have become a subject of public debate, and in some cases furious debate, which does not make decision-making any easier. Debate may be a demonstration of how Israel operates as a free country, even at a time when we are subjected to military stress. But as part of this debate, some people have tried to create the impression that the government can't make up its mind and I guess the government looks even worse if it can't make up its mind, if it is seen as just sitting there and not taking any decisions.

But, as you quite rightly pointed out, a decision not to redeploy today is a decision not to redeploy today and is not a result of the fact that we just cannot make up our minds. We have decided that today — April 2 — we are not redeploying, that we are staying right where we are. And that is as active a decision as would be a decision to redeploy on April 2.

Question: Is that a change in the situation that existed, say, a month or six weeks ago?

Answer: Not really, because our basic strategy is that we want to get out, but we don't want to make any moves where our redeployment will carry risks for the civilian population in the north of the country. The question of redeployment is not just a question of geography. It's also a question of timing.

We have made an investment in the south Lebanese Army, and the new commander has come highly recommended: he had a top position in the Lebanese Army. We feel that this will certainly advance us in the right direction, so that we can cut down the number of IDF forces in the area, since we will have a military group that can take over some of the functions that we are presently performing.

Question: Perhaps your decision not to withdraw right now could be linked to the fact that the government does not want to face an election campaign and the possibility of the Galilee being attacked during that campaign?

Answer: Well, as I just said, I simply will not admit to myself that I am ready to consider electoral considerations and I won't do it. If for the moment you want to speculate what is good in terms of the electorate, a pullback could be very good. But it is not at all clear and I say the electorate shouldn't be considered at all. Lebanon is just too important an issue.

Question: What other factors will decide when the IDF can be withdrawn?

Answer: Of course there are other factors. There are many things happening that you have to take into consideration. You don't want to get into the position where you make a move and then, a week later, you say: "What a mistake I've made." If, however, I was convinced that there was a good chance of saving the life of one Israeli soldier by making the move tomorrow, I'd make the move tomorrow.

Question: Given the escalation of terror from inside Syrian-held territory and our policy of retaliation, aren't you fearful of escalation with the Syrians?

Answer: It's possible. We really have no viable alternate strategy. We are not going to fight a war of attrition, and we're not going to be subjected to terrorism that is working under the protection of the Syrian umbrella. And that's the responsibility that the Syrians are going to have to take on themselves to prevent that. They did prevent it for many months, and when some months ago, they did not, we fired against PLO bases in Syrian-controlled territory. That will continue to be our policy, and it's very important for the Syrians to understand that we are not going to sit there and take terrorist attacks against our soldiers.

It's very important for the Syrians to realize that there is no in-between.

Question: And you feel stability can only be achieved by a policy of deterrence, rather than negotiation?

Answer: We know that they (the Syrians) have the ability to make it quiet. If they don't want terrorist activity coming from areas in their control, there will be no terrorist activity from their area. If we could make sure that there will be no such activity by talking to them, that's a much better way of doing it. But we have had no indication at all that they are interested in talking to us. In fact, we have a number of indications that they are *not* interested in talking to us.

Question: In other words, we've tried to speak to the Syrians?

Answer: I would say from our point of view we feel that contact with the Syrians could be useful. Though the Syrians insist that they are an e:.emy of Israel, this doesn't mean that all our interests are diametrically opposed. I'm sure, for example, that neither side would like uncontrolled escalation. Well, how do you prevent uncontrolled escalation? By sitting down and talking, either directly or through some mediator. But so far, all the signals are that they don't want to talk to us.

Question: Are we prepared to negotiate a separation of forces with the Syrians, to be policed by the UN?

Answer: In principle yes. They don't want escalation and we certainly don't want uncontrolled escalation. Right now we're sitting very close to the Syrians, so we certainly think it would be advantageous to have a separation of forces and get the UN between us — similar to the situation we have on the Golan, which has been a pretty safe situation.

Question: But this is a de facto admission that the Syrians are in Lebanon to stay.

Answer: First of all, it's not for us to admit; but we can't argue with the facts — you've got the Syrian Army in Lebanon and

you've got the IDF in Lebanon. We feel it would be better for all sides to have a separation agreement and have some U.N. forces between us. But, as I said, we have all indications that the Syrians do not want to talk to us in any manner or form. I don't think that the're looking to Israel for legitimacy for their presence in Lebanon and they don't see themselves in a position of symmetry with Israel. The IDF has to get out, and their leaving Lebanon has nothing to do with the IDF getting out of Lebanon.

Question: You don't think that Syrian intransigence and their unwillingness to speak to us is in fact a function of internal weakness in Israel? They read the Israeli papers and they hear the debate within the government, as well as the criticism of you by your colleagues.

Answer: That certainly plays a role. The Syrians read Israeli newspapers, listen to Israel Radio and watch Israeli television. Syrian intelligence does it, I'm sure, and there is no doubt in my mind that they think that there is a good probability that the Israeli army is going to leave Lebanon without any separation of forces with the Syrian Army, and it's quite possible that may be the reason why they feel there is no point in having contact with us. Why should they in any way compromise their position when they can achieve their end anyway, without, say, giving legitimacy to the Israeli presence in Lebanon? That debate here has weakened our position. I am 100 percent convinced of that, but I'm hesitant about saying that because of charges that I'm not for a free press or for a free government. The task of the opposition is to oppose the government and to show that the government is making a mistake here and there. But, on the other hand, there is such a thing as bi-partisan politics in many democracies in times of stress when there's been a muting of public debate on defence issues. That has certainly been the case in Israel in the past. We have been through more difficult times, like the war of attrition, where we took much heavier losses, but we did not have this kind of wild debate going on, and the Egyptians could not count on the fact that a couple more artillery shells over a couple more weeks, and the Israelis would be gone.

The debate here makes it more difficult, and it is unfortunate because maybe we could come to an arrangement on a separation of forces if the Syrians were convinced that we were not going to move out. So I'm trying to do everything possible to change that view. It is most dangerous, really most dangerous, if it should turn out that in Damascus they think that the kind of unity Israel has displayed in the past in times of stress or under attack no longer exists, and that this big army, which only becomes big when you mobilize the reserves, is not going to be big any more, and the next time around you are going to have people who are not going to want to fight on the southern front or the northern front beyond this line or beyond that line. There is no question in my mind, however, that if we have a national emergency we will have the kind of unity that we have always had, but I am concerned that they (the Syrians) have miscalculated.

I appreciate the fact that many of the people who are out there demonstrating — the women against silence and the people who care and the Yesh Gvul [There Is a Limit Movement] people — have the best motives and the best intentions. I don't doubt that. But I must admit that this is damaging. But this is the price we pay for democracy.

Assume that I believe moving the IDF out of Lebanon today, behind the international border at Rosh Haniqra, would restore the national consensus. Let's say we did that, and the following day rockets started to fall on the Galilee. Then would everybody say that we are all ready to stand up and fight this new battle together?

Question: If we put political considerations aside for a moment, is it not possible to find a solution? Shim'on Peres had what seemed to me to be a plan that did take Israel's security interests in the north into account. There is no more terrorist infrastructure there, and if you do have 2,500 people in the south Lebanese army, who are well-armed and who have 400 Israeli advisers, with their ear to the ground, with overflights and with an efficient intelligence network, wouldn't that be adequate? After all, even now with the IDF in south Lebanon, you can't say there will be no Katyushas in the Galilee.

Answer: True, we just had Katyushas landing not far from Misgav 'Am and two months ago they fell near Metulla, and many people are saying: "Here is the proof that even with the IDF's presence in Lebanon, even with the cost we are paying, we still have Katyushas in the Galilee.

But I think that the conclusion is just the opposite. What the Katyushas show is that the (terrorists') motivation is there. We know this from our intelligence sources as well. They want to prove now that nothing has been accomplished, and that life in the Galilee can be made unbearable again. For us now the motivation is to keep that capability very limited.

For almost two years now, not a single person has been hurt in the Galilee, but the temptation is there. Once we move out of the area it will again put the Galilee in range.

This does not imply that we are going to say there forever. We are not going to stay there forever; we're going to find the means of getting the protection we need before we pull out, and trying to find this (protection) under constant pressure, do it today, or do it tomorrow, doesn't make it easier.

Question: Do you feel pressure?

Answer: You mean do I personally feel pressured? In a sense — when I read the papers. I don't doubt the intentions of the (writers) involved but I feel that I have a responsibility.

Many people feel that we are not moving out of Lebanon because the government does not want to admit that it made a mistake. There are people saying that we do not have the courage to make the right decisions. From my point of view, there is nothing easier than to climb onto the jeeps and personnel carriers and get the hell out — that's really the easiest position of all. But, I just don't feel that it would be a responsible thing for me to do it that way.

Question: Do you think in retrospect that the war was a mistake?

Answer: If you look back at every war that Israel has, unfortunately, been involved in, I am sure that you can find mistakes. There is no such thing as a war that was fought without mistakes.

In may ways, a war is a statistical game. You can be right 75 percent of the time or 57 percent of the time and you think you have won the war. If you look at Ben-Gurion's book on the War of Independence, Dayan's book about the Six Day War, the Yom Kippur War, the War of Attrition, you find many mistakes. I would not be as presumptious as to tell you that everything in this war was done letter-perfect. I don't think that no mistakes were made. I think, basically, that what was behind the war is something that many people in Israel have forgotten: The first mortar shells fell on the Galilee in September of 1968 and that is when it started. And we have the series of place names that are scars in the hearts of every Israeli: Ma'alot, Qiryat Shemona, Misgav 'Am.

We tried all kinds of strategies over the past 16 years. Deep-penetration raids, artillery bombardments, air bombardments. Many people have forgotten this already. Bombings of Beirut, commando raids into Lebanon, and so on. It didn't work.

So it isn't like we had much better strategies in the past. I don't think we're in a position where you can look back and say everything, the whole thing, is all wrong, totally misconceived. I don't think that this is correct.

It's an ongoing struggle. It's difficult for us to admit it, but we have to admit it. We are going to have to keep living with this kind of danger and paying the heavy price that goes with it. I think we would be fooling ourselves if we think that there is some strategy out there that can put an end to it, once and for all. I know that 95 percent of Israelis would be prepared to pay any price to find that strategy. It's not there. Wishful thinking is one thing, and reality another.

Question: What about a pre-emptive strike against Syria?

Answer: We have been talking about the short-term problems in Lebanon. They are really very important and overriding because of the pain accompanying losses over there. In the long-term, we are seeking to deter the Arab countries, first and foremost Syria, from going to war against us. That is our biggest challenge, has always been, by the way. People have frequently said we have failed because we have had wars. That's not entirely true because if you look at a country like Syria, and a man like Al-Asad who runs it, I'd say that every day that goes by and there is no war with Syria, is a victory.

We're investing a great deal of brains and resources to come up with the kind of weaponry and tactics that would be a deterrent. I think that we are on the way to doing that. We have a very fine defence industry, employing a very large number of people with a combination of technological know-how and operational experience. This does not give us the capability and Israel is just reaching the point of maturity in this area. We went through a period when people said that it was crazy for a small country like Israel to try and make a missile. People said it was just nuts to make a sea-to-sea missile, the Gabriel. Israel advanced to a point where we were a little behind the Americans, and maybe a little ahead of the Russians. In certain areas we have weapon systems that are breakthroughs, and that do not exist, and will not exit exist, on the other side of the border. I think, given all that, that we can create a situation where the Syrians, and whoever else might think of going to war against us, will say: 'That's impossible because these guys have systems and tactics that we're just not going to be able to handle.'

Question: Do you say this despite the fact that a few months ago, during the battle over the budget, the defence establishment was saying that we're going to have to curtail research and development, freeze systems going into development, cut the size of the army, fire people from the army, and so forth?

Answer: Well this was why that debate was very difficult for us. Here and there you heard people talking about the fact that the defence force was such a large establishment that it must be easy to cut back. But it was very difficult. By the way, I stood behind that effort because I thought that the economic circumstances of the country were such that we had to have a cut in public expenditure, and I realized that you really couldn't have it without having a serious cutback in the defence budget as well.

Question: Did the $250m. that we got from the United States for the Lavi save that project?

Answer: Well, it certainly made it a great deal easier. I was the happiest man in the world when approval for that was given. The Lavi is more than a fighter project. American companies will be deeply involved, and the programme can also be seen as a basis for mutual cooperation.

Question: What has happened to strategic cooperation with the United States? You were so optimistic in November, and now this seems to have disappeared from the headlines.

Answer: We're not trying to put a lid on it and we're not trying to put it into the headlines. President Reagan said in a recent speech that since the foundation of the State, American-Israeli relationships have never been as close as they are today. There has never been such close strategic cooperation. I don't know whether it is going to last forever, but I think that today American-Israeli relations are closer than they have ever been before.

Question: Has anything tangible happened here? Are we getting joint exercises — or prepositioning?

Answer: I don't think I want to talk about any of this in detail for reasons that you understand. It starts with the fact that both countries had a similar view of the situation and have common interests. In the past there was total dissimilarity between the U.S. and Israeli views on the Middle East. I've always said we had common interests and we did have common interests. We've pursued these interests and I think there's been a great bridge built in the last six months.

Question: What about army morale in Lebanon?

Answer: I think it's very difficult to come up with a one-dimensional summation. The army is not out there doing training exercises, but it is there patrolling. The job it has to do in Lebanon is not a very pleasant job. Plenty of people are very unhappy about it. It's unpleasant and it's dangerous. Reserve duty is around 60 days a year and for some this is really tough.

Question: Which leads me to the next question. The chief of stafff, on a number of occasions, has been talking about the difficulty of keeping young officers in the army. What do you think of this phenomenon?

The defence minister said the army was having no problem finding suitable candidates for elite units — "where there are many more candidates than positions that have to be filled." Recently it had been noticed, he noted, that in these units there was a lower percentage of kibbutzniks than in the past, but a higher percentage of young people from development towns — "a fact that is a credit to Israel, because it shows what has been done here socially."

There was no problem finding fighter pilots for the Air Force, he said, but recalled the days when 'Ezer Weizman, then commander of the Air Force, "banged his fist on the table of the transport minister and demanded that something be done about El Al luring away his pilots at ten times the salary.

"This is one aspect of the problem," he said. "Israeli society is developing, the Israeli economy is developing, there are challenges and in the business world people go looking for good people. Israel has become more materialistic than it used to be, making it difficult for the army to continue to attract the best people — and I'm only interested in the best."

He denied suggestions that the problem of not finding the right people for the army was a political one — it was an economic one, he maintained. "This is not Israel of 20 years ago. We are trying to deal with the problem and to this end have taken several steps that also include changing the image of those who decide to stay in uniform, by redesigning a field programme for officers of the ground forces. Basically it is a question of image and money — not politics."

Question: In the year you have been in office, you have met with leaders from Judaea, Samaria and Gaza. Have you changed your opinions?

Answer: In terms of resolving the problem, in the sense that you arrive at a solution where everybody walks away happy, where the strains of the Arab-Israel conflict disappear, I was never very optimistic in the past, annd I am not more optimistic now. In fact what I say to most of the Arab notables that I meet — and I have had some very impressive and educational conversations wtih them — that it's clear that there is not going to be a political solution in the forseeable future, and we are going to be living together for a long time. Violence, I tell them, is not going to change it, violence will only exacerbate the situation. Thus we have to make an effort to live together, to improve the standard of living, to improve the quality of life, to learn to talk to each other in order to make life bearable for us. In my opinion, this is the foundation for a political solution. Without it, without what I said earlier, we will never have a political solution.

Question: But a political solution implies that you will be willing to compromise. Are you prepared to compromise on Judaea, Samaria and Gaza?

Answer: Most of the people (from the territories) that I have spoken to agree with me, that we have to live together. I am not deluding myself that everybody out there feels that way. But from my sampling among those who I have met, in the professions, in business, and so on, most feel that we have to find ways of living together. The political solution is a long way off.

Question: But did you give them hope for a political solution?

Answer: I don't know if I gave them hope. All I know is that what I said is realistic.

Question: But there is a difference if you are telling people to build new foundations for a better future that could include a political solution, or if you say I am not giving up one inch, saying in fact that compromise is an impossibility.

Answer: Look, I feel that if we get to the ideal situation where we live together, where people develop friendly relations, where there are common business interests and where there is not that suspicion that today characterizes Jews and Arabs — then, I think, lots of things are going to look a lot different than they do today.

Question: We are on the eve of an election campaign. Who is giong to speak for the Likud on defence issues.

Answer: I am.

Question: Not Sharon?

Answer: Well, I'm the defence minister. Maybe he is an aspiring defence minister...

Question: Do you believe that the Liberal representation in the Likud should be changed?

Answer: I do not want to state that blatantly, but I feel there is certainly room for a better arrangement, a better and more democratic arrangement between Herut and the Liberals in the formation of the Likud list.

Arens rounded off the interview by saying that he was still of the opinion that while the Israeli political system had inherent faults it was "not such a bad one." Something had to be done, he said, about the inordinate power that small splinter parties have managed to muster for themselves as a result of coalition politics.

The minister was of the opinion that the minimum percentage of the electorate to get a Knesset seat should be two-and-a-half percent.

"If that had been the case, TAMI would not have been around in the Knesset today. Not that I have anything special against TAMI," he said, "but these small splinter parties in the Israeli environment, even in the next elections, are not positive.

"Basically," he said, "it is going to be very close between the Likud and Labour, and again we are all going to be running after the small parties to make up coalitions, and then we are all back in the same boat. Something has to be done. Something really has."

Syrians, Terrorists on 'Highest State of Alert'

TA051909 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Correspondents returning from Al-Biqa' say that the Syrian forces and the terrorists have been on the highest state of alert over the last 3 days for fear of an Israeli retaliatory operation. According to them, schools in locations close to the Israeli-Syrian armistice line have been closed until further notice.

Shamir Comments on Embassy Move to Jerusalem

TA051350 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1240 GMT 5 Apr 84

["Announcement by the Spokesman of the Prime Minister's Office" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem, 5 Apr (ITIM) — "We are the only country in the world where embassies are not located in the capital. If the United States — the most important country of all — does not move its embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem, other countries will not do so either. This state of affairs cannot continue indefinitely. One of these days the embassies will have to move to our capital."

This was stated by Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir today, 5 April, to Oregon Governor Victor Atiyeh, whom he received in his office in Jerusalem. Mr. Shamir went on to add: "We are not involved in an argument with the United States, but everyone knows our stand. This is a painful thing for us, the fact that our best friends do not acknowledge Jerusalem as Israel's capital."

The governor, who is of Arab origin, said that before coming to Israel he visited Saudi Arabia, Syria, and Egypt, and heard from his interlocutors their desire for peace. When he asked Mr Shamir what the solution is, the prime minister replied: "The first condition is to meet and talk. This is how peace with Egypt was achieved. The Arab countries refuse to recognize reality. We are here to stay. However, if people get together and talk, there is a chance of finding a solution to the problems existing between Jews and Arabs."

The prime minister recalled the statements made by As-Sadat, namely that the peoples of the Middle East must realize that differences cannot be solved by war. "However," Shamir said, "all this is still something of a dream. The problems do not relate only to Israel; there are internal tensions among the Arabs. Attempts must be made to achieve progress, as was the case with Egypt, step by step."

Shamir Says IDF, Army of South Lebanon Gain Strength

TA052020 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1735 GMT 5 Apr 84

["Announcement by Spokesman of Prime Minister's Office" — ITIM headline]

[Text] Jerusalem 5 Apr, (ITIM) — "I am confident that the day will come when the Lebanese will again approach the United States with the plea to help them solve their problems," Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir said today, 5 April, when he met with a group of U.S. military cadets in his office in Jerusalem.

Mr Shamir went on to add that the United States is the only element in a position to make peace in our part of the world, since it maintains friendly relations with Israel and the Arabs. Every government in the region knows that if it wishes to settle the conflict between it and Israel, it can address itself to the United States, which has the confidence and trust of all the sides. The Soviets play only one role in our region — that of arms suppliers, especially to Syria.

The prime minister said that Israel had no choice but to build up its own army accordingly — this constituting an economic burden. "We are building up our strength from year to year. Our cordial relations with the United States also serve as a deterrent," Mr Shamir noted.

The prime minister expressed the hope that the army of south Lebanon would be recognized by the Lebanese Army as a force responsible for the security of southern Lebanon, which could in the future enable an IDF pullout. Mr Shamir said: "The IDF is beginning to make itself felt on the scene. We for our part are strengthening the IDF and we look forward to the day when we can vacate southern Lebanon altogether."

Alignment Leader Shim'on Peres Nomination Speech

TA051600 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Alignment Leader MK Shim'on Peres' address to the Labor Party Center upon his nomination as Alignment's candidate for the premiership at the Ohel Shem Auditorium in Tel Aviv]

[Text][Picked up in progress]...And I tell you that two are better; and what is more, three are better when they share a common goal. [applause]

Members of the Labor Party Center, I thank you from the bottom of my heart for your trust, friendship, and unity. This is really a great time for our movement, a movement that is about to face the supreme test in a democratic regime: free elections by the people. We have made an excellent beginning; we have closed our ranks and we believe in the justice of our way and we are properly prepared to serve the people and the country. I will not conceal from you that this is also an emotional moment in my life, to see a great movement which I love very much, united despite its human diversity and its various streams.

As you know, I have graduated from several universities: the university of the No'ar Ha'oved [Histadrut-affiliated youth movement], the university of Kibbutz Alumot, the university of the defense establishment and that on new industries. However, none of these universities demanded as much patience, perseverance, and confidence as the 7 school years I spent in the university of the opposition. This is a very tense trial, plagued with moments of crisis but also a test of endurance, truth, and necessary modesty in public service. I know that quite a few good things were said about me in those 7 years, but all the possible bad things — and you know that — were also said about me. Therefore, I

have not been discriminated against on any side. [laughter] I knew that we would all pass this test honorably and courageously. Therefore, I am deeply grateful to many of you, actually to each and every one of you.

The spotlights are rather blinding, but I feel in front of me the well-known faces of each and every center member. I assume that I know the name of each one of you, people who dedicated days and nights, who absented themselves from their homes for hours on end and who gave up leisure and rest to go from one meeting to another, from one branch to another, from one home to another, to maintain our historical way and to prepare the movement for the future awaiting it. We all plowed the ground in depth, thoroughly, and for a long time, and this will bear its fruit.

I would like to say a few words to three colleagues this evening:

To Hayim Bar-Lev, an exceptional partner for the road we have walked, a friend as strong as a rock whose personal honesty and dedication to the movement stabilized it and gave it momentum.

To Yitzhaq Rabin, to whom the movement owes a great debt for his ability to examine matters in depth, to go straight to the heart of them and then set out to battle; for his courageous decision to contribute to closing the ranks and to opening a new relationship between us. Without this decision, we would not have reached this glorious and emotional occasion today.

I do not regard the partnership between Yitzhaq and myself [Yitzhaq Navon sitting on the stage asks: "Which Yitzhaq?] — I am still dealing with Yitzhaq Rabin. [laughter] This and no other was the affair of this week.

I do not regard this partnership as a given. This partnership was built by joint efforts which taught both of us to act together in the face of the needs of the people and, if I may say so, in response to your wish, the wish of the movement, that we should work together, act together and cooperate.

Of course, this is quite emotional for me, to Yitzhaq Navon: A president loved by his people, a close friend for over 30 years — since the day we met through David Ben-Gurion — and both of us hoped deep in our hearts that we should be able to follow in the footsteps of that great and admired man. I have no doubt that Yitzhaq Navon's contribution will be an exceptional and special contribution to our movement. He carries on his shoulders the desires of the people and the hopes of many of our sons. A central place is reserved for Yitzhaq Navon in the movement's life and institutions and if called to bear national responsibility, he will be one of the main bearers. [applause]

Yitzhaq Navon, Yitzhaq Rabin and myself could have appeared this evening before you contesting each other. Instead, we are appearing as a trio who converged to tackle the needs of the country together, to serve together the future of the nation, [applause] as the core of a larger team that will overcome the obstacles which have piled on Israel's way and enable us, the people and the country, to have a resurge of creativity and a policy of truth.

I must tell you that only a staunch optimist could have believed that we would reach this moment but it seems that there is always room for optimism.

Comrades, we are at the threshold of elections and it is our desire that the elections should be devoted to the affairs of the people and the state. We regard this campaign as a great opportunity for an overt and poignant examination of the dangers and constrictions as well as of the possibilites and hopes beating in our hearts.

We will not ignore the past. No media wiz will be able to describe the Likud's 7 bad years as a retroactive success. Success, if there is any, belongs to the future and henceforth it depends on us to a great extent, on each one of us.

In 1977 our movement was afflicted by a crisis, our self-confidence weakened. We, the Alignment governments, the government of the late Golda Me'ir and of Yitzhaq Rabin — may he live for long — we began the peace process with Egypt in the face of fierce opposition from the Likud and its leaders. This could be confirmed in the television program broadcast on the occasion of the 5th anniversary of the signing of the peace treaty with Egypt. It so happened that the peace process was crowned by negotiations conducted by the Likud amid impressive ceremonies. The public was drawn into a whirlwind, its official leaders began declaring: No more wars. Government spokesmen announced an economic revolution which was supposedly designed to turn Israel into the Switzerland of the Middle East, that rivers of dollars pumped from foreign sources would cover the face of the earth.

You probably remember the emergence of a very promising movement, the Democratic Movement for Change [DMC], which stated that it would be a refreshing substitute for the dying Labor Party. Slowly, the bright and imaginary colors, the fictitious and artificial abundance began fading away and withering. The DMC sparked but did not catch fire; the sparkle died down before it caught fire and left its crop in the barren field of the Likud.

In 1981 our camp recovered. We made enormous efforts to recruit all the forces and close our ranks. We stood up to provocative and violent waves and we were not deterred. Although a few months before the elections there was a series of dramatic events — Aridor's wasteful economy, As-Sadat's visit to Sharm ash-Shaykh, the unnecessary publication of the bombardment of the Iraqi nuclear reactor, Meridor's promise that one tiny little lamp would illuminate all of Ramat Gan — despite all this, we increased our strength by 50 percent and we are currently the largest faction in the Knesset.

Today, 7 years later, 1977 seems light-years away from us. In the last 3 years, the Likud's illusions burst one after the other, as if somebody had predetermined an order for the explosion of the Likud's illusions. As Yitzhaq Rabin mentioned, the difference between us and the Likud prominently came to the fore. The illusion that the land would be quiet for 40 years went to pieces; so did the illusion of a new order in Lebanon, that of electricity without energy [allusion to Minister Ya'aqov Meridor's invention]; the illusion that playing in the stock market rather than

working makes money; the illusion that one may take loans without having to repay them; the illusion that consumption may increase without expanding productivity; however, above everything else, the illusion that there can be a greater Eretz Yisra'el without great waves of aliyah went to pieces.

Our experience and our vision is different; the experience and vision of a working and prosperous Israel, prospering on the fruit of its labor rather than from alms; the experience of an Israel with values and the vision of an egalitarian Israel, an Israel where people are responsible for each other rather than an Israel where people are alienated from each other; the experience of a united Israel that has to confront a war of no choice and the vision of an unbroken Israel that does not turn its back on the chances of peace; the experience of a growing Israel even if paying the price of growing pains is involved and the vision of an Israel that makes demands on itself and does not scorn the entire world.

No, we will not forget; we will not let others forget the past. However, our heads will be faced to the future, to the border settlements, the development towns, to the kibbutzim and moshavim, to the schools and universities in the large population centers.

The future is yours, the poet Alterman wrote, to pursue freedom and happiness, even if your people are feeble and ashamed.

I am asking the people for 4 working years; I am asking the people to grant us an absolute majority [applause], so that we do not have to rely on the give-and-take of the small factions and the smaller splinter groups. We will ask the people for a mandate to heal the economy, for a social change, for real security and for peace in the region.

We call on all the members of the movement to enlist into the campaign now. We call to our sympathizers and say to them: Be patient, judge us according to our deeds; do not pass sentence on us before we have been given the opportunity to be tested by our deeds.

We call on all non-partisan Israeli citizens and propose that they set up a movement of citizens who care — ESHEL [Hebrew acronym for Ezrahim She'ikhpat Lahem] — so that together with us we should extricate our country from its horrible distress. We call on all these to set up a large democratic partnership to raise anew the moral standards of the people, to promote the economy and to improve the quality of life.

Ladies and gentlemen, the Israeli economy is currently at an acute junction: either to run with the new world economy and even attempt to run ahead of it or to drag behind and be caught in a fatal and incurable backwardness. The ambition of the Labor movement is to turn the Israeli economy into a model, one of the most progressive economies in the entire world, just as we did regarding agriculture. This is a vital ambition to an Israel that strives for independence and excellence. This is also a vital ambition to any one of us, Israelis, who do not want to be forever dependent on loans from foreigners, on transitory wagers and on ephemeral alms. We want everyone to be a creative Israeli, independent and confident of his ability to make a living for his family, to provide his children with a good education; an Israeli who can trust his currency not to be the product of a minting machine but the fruit of real labor.

Wherever I turn, colleagues tell me: We can no longer live on overdrafts, allow us to work harder and make more money. We intend and we will also be able to recruit investment capital, both in Israel and overseas, to found new and sophisticated industries in the development towns and the suburbs, industries which would be based on the most modern science and technology, industries which would be able to pay high wages to overcome the widening social gap within our society.

Members of the center, some may sneer at this vision. We are a movement that sneers at those who sneer at us; we have done the unacceptable. I remember that when Yitzhaq Rabin and I took leave of Henry Kissinger, he asked us: Tell me, where else in the world is there a country of 3 million people that manufactures its own aircraft, tanks and missiles? He went on to say: If I am not mistaken, you also have some type of textile plant in Dimona where you also manufacture something? Where else is a country where immigrants founded 30 new development towns in less than a generation? So, what is there to sneer at us? We started something and we were not scared; we came here and we had dreams and also this time we will do that which seems impossible. We are a movement that changes reality rather than succumb to its maneuvers.

The economy is nothing but a means to build a fairer, more just, educated and egalitarian society without enforcing things, without resorting to the power of imposition. The scientific and technological innovations will serve the great values of our nation and not otherwise. Man is not a pagan; man is not a servant of computers. The new means must serve to advance humanity rather than repress it.

We yearn for a new economy and a new society, a society where democracy will deepen by far-reaching decentralization. We will delegate authority from the central government to the local authorities, we will encourage the establishment of new forms of communities, of social communities where the citizens themselves will run their own lives; they will decide which kind of industry they want, which kind of schools they want for their children, which kind of kindergarten and which kind of quality of life they want, the extent of mutual assistance and how to promote their own affairs in the direction they deem fit.

We do not only need laws, we also need manners and mutual respect. Our movement is entrusted with an informal mission. Comrades, we must return to the atmosphere of mutual respect, orthodox toward nonreligious people and vice versa, each community toward the original culture of another community. We must foster a different kind of relation also in regard to other nations. We will foster friendship with our Arab and Druze friends. We will propose to the Arab and Druze citizens, without blurring their identity, that they merge into our society, and identify with the needs of the country.

At the same time, notwithstanding our noble ambitions, we should not forget that we are living in an area where military arms exceed moral equipment; a region where force rather than statesmanship has the upper hand. Therefore, we should not

make light of the large flow of modern and lethal weapons arriving in the Arab countries. The military arena of the Middle East is increasingly filling with modern warfare means, short-range and long-range missiles, laser beams, night vision equipment, destructive and more accurate and powerful warheads.

Comrades, a new war in the future might be more destructive and less restrained than all the wars we have experienced in the past. There is no certainty that cities might not be bombed, that the civilian population might come to no harm. Terrorism will spread further and will be more hideous, and it seems it will be expanding. All of us, regardless of whether in the government or in the opposition, should maintain and foster the strength and quality of the IDF. None of us will agree to see our sons, in case a new war erupts, God forbid, defending our lives with inferior weapons and from a weakened deployment. Therefore, we will not let the IDF's strength come to any harm. We will allow it to train and equip properly, to prepare a new generation of commanders and to expand research and development of our self-production. [Live broadcast of Peres' speech interrupted, and regular programming is then resumed from the studio; IDF radio broadcasts following portion, presumable recorded, at 1555 GMT which it notes is "the end of Peres' speech"; passage of indeterminate length not broadcast]

Victory is not in our pocket but it is also not beyond reach. If we set out on our road with passion, confidence and enthusiasm we will infect everybody and we will bring victory to the country, to the people and to the Alignment. [applause]

I can do nothing but conclude my speech with a call to each and every one of you to volunteer, to work and to win. [applause]

Peres Promises Arabs High Places on List

TA060627 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres says that the Labor Party will put three Arabs high enough on the Alignment's Knesset list to make it possible for them to be elected to the Knesset. One of the three will be a Druze. Peres said this yesterday in a television interview.

Peres on Gaza Autonomy, Talks With Jordan

JN061501 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1430 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Shim'on Peres, leader of the Israeli opposition Labor Party, has stated that if Egypt proposed the application of autonomy in the Gaza sector first, he would be ready to discuss this proposal if his party won the coming parliamentary elections. Peres stated that he would also be ready to enter into negotiations with Jordan without preconditions and without a Jordanian commitment to accept the Camp David accords. Peres made these statements during a meeting of party activists from the Triangle villages.

MK Abba Eban also spoke at this meeting. He said that he had informed Egyptian President Husni Mubarak that 23 July might witness a change of international significance which will affect the future of the entire Middle East region.

Navon, Rabin Address Labor Party Meeting

TA052048 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Speeches by Yitzhaq Navon and Yitzhaq Rabin at the Labor Party Center meeting held at the Ohel Shem Auditorium in Tel Aviv on 5 April — recorded]

[Text] [Navon] You may think that I was on vacation while I was in the presidency, that I went horse-riding...[this is addressed to Hayim Bar-lev, Labor Secretary General] [laughter from the audience] Actually you spoke pretty fast today, Hayim... [laughter in the audience] At any rate, I thank you for your words, Hayim, and you, too, Moshe Shahal [Labor Knesset faction head]. After 6 years of withdrawal from political life, I return to you, to my mother movement, to my hearth. I return to the movement wholeheartedly, and wholly prepared to do my part in its discussions, its struggles, for its unification, and for its victory. [prolonged applause]

[Rabin] Dear colleagues, to begin with I should like to express my good wishes to Yitzhaq — from one Yitzhaq to another — on his decision, which I know was difficult and caused him much soul-searching until he reached it. As a professional contestant, Yitzhaq, [loud laughter from the audience] I can tell you that you have spared yourself a considerable amount of heartache, even when one wins...[applause] sorry, reference is to the premiership. [laughter] Quite regardless of the numbering on the list, you owe it to the movement, to yourself, to the things you believe in, to stand shoulder to shoulder with Shim'on. The names Shim'on and Yitzhaq have a certain connotation in the party, or had in the past. [laughter] Now, Shim'on and two Yitzhaqs. [laughter and applause]

Eban Comments on Mubarak Support for Peace Accords

TA051732 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1505 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Egyptian President Husni Mubarak met today with MK Abba Eban in Cairo. This is the first meeting in a very long time between the Egyptian President and a senior Israeli political figure. Mubarak received MK Eban cordially, and in the course of their talk expressed his adherence to the peace treaty with Israel. However, he also voiced criticism of Israel's recent steps in Lebanon. MK Eban was interviewed by our correspondent for Arab affairs, Eldad Beck:

[Begin recording] [Beck] Good day to you, Mr Eban. How was your talk with President Mubarak?

[Eban] Well, the president did me much honor and courtesy, but he was also frank. It appears that the balance sheet is not all that simple. On the one hand, I have no doubt after this talk — nor did I have before that — of the geniune adherence of President Mubarak to the peace treaty, and his determination not to give in to those people in Egypt and outside it who are in effect

proposing that this matter should be severed. I refer to adherence to Camp David and adherence to the treaty. On the other hand, beyond this very important principle, there is far more dispute than there is accord.

[Beck] Mr Eban, did you bring President Mubarak a message from Prime Minister Shamir?

[Eban] By no means. I do not understand why I should have taken a message. I had no message. I am not a courier.

[Beck] How would you describe the general atmosphere surrounding your visit? We understood here that the Egyptian press virtually ignored the visit.

[Eban] Yes, I imagine that while elections are under way here, the people who invited me here are not interested in stressing the fact. I am however greatly appreciative of the opportunity of coming into contact with a great many members of the Egyptian establishment, and especially to be able to talk to the policy-makers. I believe that there should be a proliferation of such contacts, because this pipeline of contacts has been drying up lately. [end recording]

Lebanon Impedes Relations Improvement
TA060632 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Apr 84 pp 1, 15

[Text] Cairo — Israel's continuing presence in Lebanon remains the chief obstacle to any improvement in Israeli-Egyptian relations, President Husni Mubarak yesterday told Alignment Knesset Member Abba Eban.

Eban, who concluded two days of talks with top Egyptian officials at the invitation of Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Butrus Ghali, met with Mubarak yesterday morning for 75 minutes.

The former foreign minister said afterwards that the Egyptian leader had reiterated his deep desire to adhere to the peace treaty signed by his predecessor, the late Anwar as-Sadat. Eban related having expressed to Mubarak his satisfaction that both countries wish to honour the peace agreement, but regretted that relations are not warmer.

Mubarak in response criticized the Israeli military presence in Lebanon and the lack of progress in the Camp David process, especially as regards the Palestinian issue. Mubarak hoped that later in the year diplomatic initiatives might be launched that would break the deadlock, Eban said. Eban came away from his meetings worried lest the peace process become stunted by lack of communication between the two sides, and urged his Egyptian hosts to renew contacts at all levels of government. He invited Ghali to come to Israel on a reciprocal visit, but the Egyptian minister did not commit himself.

In his talks with the Egyptian establishment, Eban said he felt a considerable measure of disappointment in the lack of enthusiasm for the peace treaty and development of relations with Egypt as evinced by the Shamir government.

On another matter, Eban was unable to obtain a satisfactory reply from the Egyptians concerning what course they would recommend should Jordan and the Palestinians persist in their refusal to negotiate with Israel.

It was apparent from Mubarak's welcome to Eban in his own home and the red-carpet treatment he was given on his arrival yesterday that Egypt wishes the encounter to be publicized in Israel and in the U.S. However, Eban's presence has been kept out of the Egyptian press, except for the leftist opposition daily *ASH-SHA'B* which printed a virulent attack on the government's invitation and termed Eban "the produce of a terrorist organization."

Otherwise Egyptians did not know Eban was here. Three reporters attended Eban's lecture Wednesday at the diplomatic centre, but not a word appeared in the papers.

Eban's lecture was the first ever given by an Israeli to Egyptian foreign-service officials, many of whom had never met an Israeli before. It was apparent that the diplomats had a genuine wish to learn about Israel.

Eban opened in classical Arabic, to the pleasure of his audience, and then continued in English, discussing changes in diplomacy in the past generation.

Facing questions, Eban regretted that American armed involvement in Beirut had diminished its chances of mediating between Israel and Syria, arguing that the Americans "behaved like a referee who suddenly scores goals for one side."

Asked about the PLO, Eban told his audience that "we have failed to find a single PLO statement of having given up its design to destroy Israel." He said: "The Palestinians have never missed a chance of losing an opportunity" for reaching an accommodation.

Israel has no interest in controlling forever Moslem holy sites in Jerusalem, he said, recalling that in 1967 an official letter to that effect was sent to the UN secretary-general by an Israeli cabinet committee that included Minister Without Portfolio Menahem Begin.

Ghali's dinner party Wednesday night for Eban and his wife was held in the Nile Hilton penthouse restaurant, and both Ghali and Eban toasted in Arabic the continuing peace between Israel and Egypt.

The guests included Presidential Adviser Usamah al-Baz; Ex-Health Minister Mahmud Mahfuz, today a senior senator; Deputy Minister 'Abd al-Hamid; Ghali's Cabinet chief, 'Ali Mayir al-Said; Ghali's political counsellor, Ahmad Jum'ah, until recently No.2 at the Egyptian Embassy in Tel Aviv; Egypt's first ambassador to Israel, Sa'd Murtada; Israeli Ambassador to Egypt Moshe Sason and Professor Shim'on Shamir, head of the Israel Academic Centre in Cairo.

Eban and his wife returned home last night.

Ben-Elisar Affirms Mubarak Support for Peace Treaty

TA061053 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 6 Apr 84 p 4

[Text] "President Mubarak views the peace treaty with Israel as a vital Egyptian interest, and will not break it." This was said by MK Eliyahu Ben-Elisar, chairman of the Knesset's Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee, at a symposium called "5 Years to the Peace With Egypt — What Next?" This symposium was held in the framework of the political forum of the Tel Aviv Blue Shirts Youth Movement.

Ben-Elisar also said that Mubarak is firm in his opinion, although he is surrounded by advisers such as Usamah al-Baz who see the peace treaty as a weapon to be used against Israel, in order to weaken its standing internationally as well as internally.

MK Ben-Elisar expressed the opinion that many of the Egyptians who were against As-Sadat's initiative have begun to see that the peace is good for Egypt, and they are now willing to come to terms with it. However, we should not expect relations between Israel and Egypt to improve in the near future, since the Egyptians differentiate between peace and normal, daily relations.

Professor Menahem Milson of the "Way to Peace Movement" said at the same conference that since there is no progress toward solving the Palestinian problem, there will be no improvement in relations with Egypt. However, he added, in his opinion freezing the settlements will not cause the Palestinians to enter peace negotiations.

New Policy Adopted on Entry of Lebanese Civilians

TA060629 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Apr 84 p 1

[Report by Menahem Horowitz]

[Text] Metulla — Israel is adopting a new policy on the entry of Lebanese civilians into the country, following the terrorist attack in Jerusalem on Monday by three persons who crossed the border from Lebanon.

Yesterday dozens of Lebanese were denied entrance visas at the northern crossings, in contrast to the previous policy under which virtually any Lebanese wishing to enter Israel was permitted to do so.

Previously, potential visitors had only to say they wished to visit the holy places in Jerusalem to gain entry. Now, border officials are asking tougher and more extensive questions, designed to weed out sources of possible trouble.

The Israel Defence Forces has also beefed up security at the Al-Awwali River crossings. Merchants who must cross the river daily have complained that such intensified precautions have been delaying them unnecessarily and the IDF has issued them special passes to speed up their passage.

MA'ARIV Commentary on New Settlement Drive

TA051229 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 5 Apr 84 p 8

[Commentary by Yosef Tzuri'el: "Between Two Worlds"]

[Text] The Arabs on the other side of the "Green Line" still do not know that they will inadvertently participate in the upcoming elections to the Knesset. Their participation will not be modest: They will lay the foundations for more houses for Jews across the "Green Line," dig more water and sewer ditches, erect more electricity poles, and pave more roads to bald-headed hills.

The preparations have already begun. In a meeting between Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, Finance Minister Yig'al Kohen-Orgad, and Matityahu Drobles, head of the World Zionist Organization [WZO] Settlement Department, it was agreed to allocate about 1.25 billion shekels, in addition to the regular budget, in order to strengthen 22 settlements which were established a short time ago, and to prepare the infrastructure for 12 new settlements.

In financial terms, this means an expenditure which will amount to 3.5 billion shekels for a period of 1 year, and this only for purposes of building and development. A year ago the expenditure amounted to about 2 billion shekels at the present value.

Thus, there is work to be done in the next few months — and of course, there will be something to show. It can be expected that many thousands, and perhaps tens of thousands, will come on Saturdays and during week days with buses and private cars in order to admire what was promised and fulfilled by the supporters of Greater Israel in the government and the WZO.

These days will be particularly solemn for Matityahu Drobles. He will present 118 settlements in various stages of development, and will be able to claim that about 80 percent of them were established under the Likud. Drobles will be able to boast that if 7 years ago only about 3,500 people lived in Judaea and Samaria, today there are about 35,000 in the area. For those insisting on elaboration he will say: We have so far established 23 urban settlements, 33 moshavim and kibbutzim, and 62 communal and rural settlements.

However, Drobles will not be the only one to enjoy the fruits of these achievements. He will have tough rivals: "Shamir people" vs. "Levi people", and all of them against "Sharon people." And opposite Prof Yuval Ne'eman, who is deputy chairman of the Ministerial Committee on Settlement Affairs, there will be Rabbi Druckman and Hanan Porat: the one with his Matzad, the other with his "Orot." For all these people this will be "the battle of Eretz Yisra'el," and each group has its claims. Minister David Levi will probably demand his share as minister of housing and construction. And in order to avoid any misunderstanding, Levi has already fired the first shot in the territory, so that his rivals will know who they have to deal with. And if the Shamir people have Drobles, Sharon also has his rights, and energy. He will show them yet. The pilgrimage to the settlements on the eve of the last elections is still remembered. And if Sharon has time, he will not want to share with others what he believes belongs to him alone: the settlement drive in Judaea and Samaria.

Much effort will be required of the political rivals, the supporters of greater Israel, in order to present their part in the settlement drive, and this also has a price. The budget supplement already guaranteed is similar to the situation on the eve of elections to the last Knesset. Now, as then, there is a special organization with one aim only: to establish as many settlements as possible, so that if — "God forbid" — the Alignment wins the elections, it will find itself a prisoner in a situation created by others.

What this amounts to is fewer settlements with a solid basis than was promised 7 years ago, and fewer Jewish settlers than was promised 3 years ago. However, there will be more flimsy settlements, which in due time will demand to be enlarged and strengthened.

In the meanwhile, the Arabs of the territories are torn between two worlds. They build houses and villas on "state land" for those people they consider their enemies — and they make money, much money.

Some Golan Heights Druze Giving Up Citizenship
TA051833 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Some Druze on the Golan Heights have recently given up their Israeli citizenship. Our correspondent Yo'el Dar reports that they were thus giving in to pressure by Syrian loyalists and to the clerics who promised they would remove the boycott against them. Those Druze who give up their Israeli citizenship stand before the clerics, put their hand on a holy book and swear that they do not hold Israeli citizenship or that they have returned their identification cards to the Interior Ministry. Our correspondent adds that several Druze on the Golan Heights were this week allowed to depart for Lebanon to look for brides for those Druze who had been suspected of having collaborated with the authorities.

Trade, Cooperation Agreement Signed With Norway
TA060721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Israel and Norway last night signed an agreement to increase trade and cooperation. The pact was signed at the end of talks between delegations of the two countries headed by their respective trade ministers.

Danger to Coastline Reported to Ministry
TA060635 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 6 Apr 84 p 3

[Report by Charles Hoffman]

[Text] A double-barrelled threat to Israel's coastline over the next several decades is outlined in a report to the Energy Ministry by a team of ministry and university scientists.

The report, initiated by the ministry's Earth Sciences Administration, says that the receding of the Nile Delta in Egypt will over the years reduce the flow of sand from the Delta to the Israeli coastline. With the coast not continuously reinforced with sand from the Delta, it, too, will begin to be eaten away by the sea and recede, the report says.

The receding of the Delta is a result of the building of the Aswan High Dam in 1964. This prevented silt from the Nile from reaching the Delta and replenishing the areas constantly eroded by the sea.

If the Egyptians prevent further erosion of the Delta, thus reducing the sand flow to Israel, the report concluded, this would increase the damage to the Israeli coastline in the short run. Signs of erosion along Israel's coast have already appeared in several places due to the changes in the composition of the waters of the Nile. The report was also submitted to the Electric Corporation and government planning authorities, so that the possible erosion of the coastline in the future will be taken into account when building power plants, ports and other coastal facilities. Another danger noted was a possible rise in the level of the sea by five to seven metres over the next several decades, as a result of the melting of icebergs and the polar icecaps.

ALGERIA

SFRY President Spiljak To Lead Delegation Visit

LD051459 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Algiers, 5 Apr (APS) — The Presidency issued the following statement:

At the invitation of president and FLN Secretary General Chadli Bendjedid, Mika Spiljak, president of the Presidency of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, will pay a state visit to Algeria beginning Saturday, 7 April 1984.

On this visit, which will last several days, the Yugoslav president will be accompanied by an important delegation including Lazar Mojsov, federal secretary for foreign affairs, Zivorad Kovacevic, member of the Federal Executive Council and chairman of the Algerian-Yugoslav Mixed Committee; and Zivojin Jazic, adviser at the Yugoslav Presidency for foreign affairs.

LIBYA

Shultz Accusations on Support for Terrorism Rebutted

LD052338 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] New York, 5 Apr (JANA) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz has reiterated the U.S. Administration's allegations that states that reject America's policies practise terrorism. At a meeting in Washington the night before last with officials from America, Europe and Japan, the U.S. secretary of state claimed that the Jamahiriyah, Iran, Syria and the DPRK are backing terrorism. He also urged America's allies to take positions hostile to these states.

These statements on the part of the U.S. secretary of state stem from the U.S. Administration's hostile policies toward peoples that refuse to acquiesce to domination and who follow an independent line toward Washington. They express the nature of the aggressive objectives of the American imperialist line, which is being carried out throughout the world in a barbaric manner rejecting the right of peoples to defend their freedom.

The U.S. secretary of state has leveled these blatant accusations against the Jamahiriyah, Syria, the DPRK and Iran because he realizes fully that these states have shown that they constitute an unbroken thorn in the American flank, and that he who practises terrorism in reality is not one of these states: America is the first imperialist state that has raised terrorism to the level of state policy. The Reagan administration wants to behave in the world as an international policeman, alone. Furthermore, it sends its fleets and aircraft squadrons to threaten small peoples. It deploys deadly missiles in Europe and it is behind all the hideous massacres perpetrated by the Zionists against the Arabs. It is the one that commits infamous and disgraceful acts against insurgents in Latin American countries, and back puppet regimes in Sudan, Egypt and Somalia. This is indeed real terrorism, and America is the sole state that openly practises organized international terrorism.

SFRY's Mamula Meets Again With Yunis Jabir, Departs

LD051948 Tripoli JANA in English 1408 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Tripoli, Rajab 5, April 5, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY — Talks between Brigadier Abu Bakr Yunis Jabir, commander in chief of the Libyan Arab Armed Forces, and Admiral Branko Mamula, the federal secretary for national defence of Yugoslavia, who is visiting Jamahiriyah were resumed last night in Tripoli. Members of the two delegations also attended the meeting.

Departs 5 Apr

LD051952 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Admiral Branko Mamula, Yugoslav federal secretary for national defense, left Tripoli at midday today.

MOROCCO

Cameroon Foreign Minister Tonye Mbog Arrives 5 Apr

LD061122 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Cameroonian Minister of Foreign Affairs Tonye Mbog arrived in Morocco this evening. In a statement to a radio correspondent at Sale airport, he said that he was carrying a personal message from President Paul Biya to His Majesty King Hassan II concerning the coordination of existing cooperation between Morocco and Cameroon and the consolidation of the ties of friendship between the two countries.

He was welcomed at the airport by Foreign Minister Abdelouahid Belkeziz, the secretary general of the ministry, and a number of officials.

SUDAN

Reportage on CAR President Kolingba's Visit

Met by Numayri

EA041508 Khartoum SUNA in French 0954 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 4 Apr (SUNA) — General Andre Kolingba, president of the Central African Republic and president of the Military Committee for National Redress, arrived in Khartoum this morning for a 3-day official visit.

He was welcomed at the airport by the president of the Republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, and some state. [sentence as received] President Kolingba was accompanied by Michel Clement Nga Gnii-Voueto, minister of foreign affairs. Talks between the two sides will start on Thursday.

Kolingba Feted by Numayri

JN051033 Khartoum SUNA in English 0915 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, April 5, (SUNA) — President Numayri held a meeting last night with Central Africa Republic head of state General Andre Kolingba. The two presidents exchanged views on bilateral relations and issues of mutual concern.

The president gave a supper party in honour of General Kolingba and decorated him with the insignia of honour in recognition of the fraternal ties that bind the two countries.

The meeting was attended by Chief Justice Dayfallah Al-Haj Yusif, First Vice-President 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib from the Sudan and the vice president and foreign minister from Central Africa.

In the night President Numayri made supper banquet in the honour of President Kolingba and his accompanying delegation.

General Kolingba arrived here yesterday morning for a three-day official visit.

He was given a warm welcome upon arrival and was received by President Numayri and senior officials at the airport.

Numayri, Kolingba Exchange Speeches

JN051719 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1500 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Apr (SUNA) — Official talks between Sudan and the Central African Republic began here this morning. President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri headed the Sudanese side and General Andre Kolingba, chief of the Military Committee for National Redress and head of state of the CAR, headed the Central African side. The two presidents addressed the first session of the talks.

In his address, Numayri welcomed Sudan's guest and his delegation and said: You are visiting our country carrying with you messages of friendship, peace, and love from a country whose friendship we are proud of, and from a people to whom we are linked with the closest relations. He described the visit as an emphasis and renewal of the deeply-rooted brotherly relations.

Numayri said: As the ties of history, geography, blood, and culture have entrenched relations between us, our present common concerns and similar issues have united our feelings and aspirations. He added: Our joint struggle to preserve the unity and sovereignty of our two countries affirms that our fate is one and stresses the need to strengthen cooperation between Sudan and the CAR.

Numayri emphasized that the Sudanese people's achievements under their revolution and those which they are seeking to achieve are only part of the African peoples' struggle to assert their identity and to achieve their unity and freedom — a struggle of the Africans against backwardness and all the obstacles that hamper the progressive African march. He added: From this premise, we feel that our feelings are identical with all African peoples, and our aspirations are the same when we reject and resist the side battles which some parties are trying to push us into. This is in addition to our rejection of attempts at foreign intervention in our internal affairs and the plots and conspiracies that aim at undermining our efforts toward internal construction and achieving our ambitious and aspirations concerning economic and social development and building our modern state.

Numayri said that the realistic awareness of the challenges that are facing Africa indicates the need to strengthen cooperation and combine efforts among African countries to achieve security, stability, and development. He noted that foreign intervention has created a split throughout Africa. He affirmed that the only way to confront the consequences of this intervention is to resist it and to solve problems peacefully. The president emphasized that this method will help to overcome the economic crises that are facing Africa — crises which have become more grave due to natural disasters, drought problems, desert threats, and the deterioration of the environment.

Numayri said that Sudan gives special importance to regional cooperation and to Sudan's continued efforts to promote cooperation with the neighboring countries on both the bilateral and regional levels. He affirmed Sudan's concern over the resolutions of the conference that was held in Khartoum recently, comprising the foreign ministers of Sudan, Central Africa, Egypt, Uganda, Zaire, and Chad. He also affirmed that due to its location, Sudan shoulders a special responsibility for developing regional cooperation in the area, because Sudan constitutes a main link between east and west Africa and a vital connection in the Nile valley and the various parts of Africa. He said that Sudan's relations with the CAR will have special significance within this framework to promote relations between them in a manner that yields benevolence for the peoples of the two countries and the whole African region.

President Numayri expressed his confidence that in their talks the two sides will discuss all aspects of cooperation between the CAR and Sudan and propose the means of handling African and international issues of mutual concern on the basis of an agreement in viewpoints on matters that threaten security and peace in Africa.

Numayri wished General Kolingba and the accompanying delegation a happy stay in their second homeland. He also wished the peoples of both fraternal countries success in whatever serves their general well-being.

General Kolingba began his speech during this first session of talks by expressing his thanks, gratitude, and appreciation to the Sudanese people and government for the warm reception accorded to him and the accompanying delegation during the visit. He also conveyed the greetings of the CAR people. He said that the kind words of President Numayri expressed the feelings of friendship and trust which the Sudanese people have for the CAR people. He expressed his confidence that his first visit to Sudan, which is taking place within the framework of friendship and good neighborliness, will open new and wide horizons for consolidating the relations between Sudan and the CAR.

General Kolingba affirmed that his country finds in Sudan the partner which understands the right of good neighborliness and

which loves peace. He said this vast country, which has common borders with several countries, always works for developing and promoting the ties of friendship and solidarity with these countries so as to achieve stability in the region. He explained that this positive attitude by Sudan is identical with the CAR's policy. He expressed his belief that it is the duty of every state to work for peace and to end the instability, which the region is currently suffering from, so the region will devote itself to the noble aims of development in a climate of peace and security.

The CAR president emphasized that the great achievements which Sudan has achieved in the field of national reconstruction under the leadership of President Numayri has been possible due to the policy of peace and national unity which it has pursued. He said that his country is following the exemplary progress which Sudan has achieved in the fields of agriculture, dairy farming, and industry.

The CAR president said he is particularly appreciative of the friendly ties between Sudan and the CAR which, he said, are getting stronger with time. He said that the existing cooperation between them is sincere and vital as is obvious from the many agreements signed between the two countries on good neighborliness, the combatting of illegitimate hunting, and the protection of animals. He expressed the hope that the work of the third ministerial conference of the central African states, which is currently meeting here, will succeed in organizing the combatting of illegitimate hunting and the protection of wildlife.

President Kolingba explained that his country attaches special importance to the work of the joint ministerial committee between Sudan and the CAR in its capacity as the legal framework for the regulation of relations between the two countries and the systematic exchange of expertise, especially in the agricultural feld. He said: We expect the next meeting of this committee, which will be held in May in Bangui, to give new dimensions to the systematic cooperation between the two countries.

The CAR president pointed out that his current visit is taking place at a time of increasing concern about the international situation, especially in the Third World and in Africa in particular. He explained that Sudan realized this fact when it convened the foreign ministers conference of the five countries last November. That initiative, he stressed, falls within the framework of tackling the concerns expressed by the Lagos plan. It also expresses regional solidarity and Sudan's profound faith in the cause of Affican unity.

President Kolingba said at today's session of talks that the foreign ministers conference of the five countries had dealt with important topics dealing with the security of the region. The president stressed the importance of joint action to foil all attempts to undermine stability and threaten security. President Kolingba said that his country does not want Chadian territory to become a springboard for criminal actions harming peace and stability and Chad's national unity and territorial integrity. This, he said, is also the attitude of all neighboring countries.

President Kolingba said that the Western Sahara problem should not paralyze the OAU and that recent developments in the south of the African Continent should not hamper the OAU's objective to achieve the full liberation of the African Continent. President Kolingba said the CAR looks forward to the convocation of the 20th African summit.

Foreign Ministers Meet

JN051801 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1730 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Apr (SUNA) — Central African Foreign Minister Clement Michel Nga Gnii-Voueto and Sudanese Minister of State in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Mustafa Madani continued their meetings after they were addressed by Presidents Numayri and Kolingba at noon today.

The two sides reviewed the details and tasks of the joint ministerial committee which will hold a meeting in the Central African capital next month. They discussed implementing the agreements between the two countries concerning good neighborliness.

Khartoum University Closed Until Further Notice

JN052100 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Khartoum, 5 Apr (SUNA) — It has been decided to close down all the facilities of Khartoum University as of today, Thursday, until further notice. This decision also applies to the institute of supplementary studies. However, the activities of scientific research and higher studies will continue.

This decision was made in light of the study made by the council of deans on the progress of classes and examinations at the university.

Al-Mirghani: Libyan Version of Bombing 'Despicable'

PM051246 London AL-HAWADITH Arabic 6 Apr 84 pp 36,37

[Interview with Foreign Minister Muhammad al-Mirghani by Raghidah Dirgham in New York — date not specified]

[Excerpts] Question: Why come to the Security Council in order to solve an inter-Arab problem?

Answer: Yes, the problem is inter-Arab. But in 1976 a Libyan invasion of Sudan occurred and we lodged a complaint with the Security Council. The Arab countries then asked Sudan to withdraw its complaint so that it could be dealt with by the Arab League and the OAU.

We accepted this and went to the Arab League and the OAU, but nothing happened. Since then, as I pointed out in my speech at the Security Council, there have been very many violations, continuing interference, and sabotage, culminating in the recent air raid.

Question: The Libyan foreign minister said in his speech to the Security Council that the distance between Libya and the posi-

tions that were bombed is proof that Libya is not involved. What is your comment on this?

Answer: First of all we have no interest in falsely accusing anybody. Second, I answered his statement in the Security Council; I pinpointed the distance and showed that in practice they could carry out this operation.

Quuestion: Why should Libya carry out a raid of this kind?

Answer: I believe that you heard Al-Qadhdhafi's speech on the Jamahiriyah anniversary and what he said about Sudan and Egypt and the pledge he made to liberate Sudan inch by inch. This raid was part of the operation.

Question: You do not deny the existence of opposition in Sudan. But the problem is what has been said about a mutiny movement in southern Sudan. There has been much talk of it recently. How do you link this to the raid?

Answer: In his speech Al-Qadhdhafi said that he supports the mutineers and that he will help them militarily. This is Al-Qadhdhafi's interference in Sudan and in the problem of the south.

Opposition in Sudan? Yes, of course there is much opposition in Sudan. We are not happy with the existence of opposition, but we are proud of the fact that opposition does exist in Sudan. There is opposition in all countries. We could have done to the opposition what Libya did to its own opposition. I can give you a long list of names of countries that have liquidated opposition.

Question: It is said that there are protests against the application of Islamic laws.

Answer: We are proud of applying the Islamic shari'ah and wish every religion to apply its own laws. But we do not apply the Islamic laws to non-Muslims. This is a well-known fact and the southerners know it. This is not the problem. This might be the problem as seen from outside; they might think that Islamic laws mean that we will turn all our people into Muslims.

Question: What do you say to the Libyan accusation that it was President Numayri who fabricated this incident?

Answer: In fact it is not strange that Libya should say such a thing. But what would be strange would be for any rational person to believe that a government would use its own airplanes to bomb its own broadcasting station and kill its own citizens.

I wish the Libyans would only deny the accusation against them, for this would be acceptable and respectable. But their attempt to find reasons to say that the plane was Sudanese and that the Sudanese Government did this and killed its own people in order to obtain arms from abroad is unacceptable and despicable.

TUNISIA

Joint Communique Published on Visit of LCY Delegation

PM041525 Tunis L'ACTION in French 29 Mar 84 p 5

[Unattributed report: "Joint Communique of the Destourian Socialist Party and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia: Strengthening Bonds of Friendship and Cooperation by Multiplying Consultations Between the Two Parties"]

[Text] A joint communique was published yesterday following the visit to Tunisia by a delegation of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia [LCY] at the invitation of the Destourian Socialist Party [PSD].

Here is the text of the communique:

At the invitation of the PSD, an LCY delegation led by Mr Dusan Dragosavac, member of the Presidency and chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, made an official visit to Tunisia 24 through 26 March 1984.

During the visit the delegation was received by President Habib Bourguiba, president of the Republic and of the PSD. It was also received by:

Mohamed Mzali, prime minister and secretary general of the party;

Beji Caid Essebsi, member of the Politburo and foreign minister;

Hedi Baccouche, leader of the party and minister attached to the prime minister.

A working session was held at the House of the Party between the two delegations, led by Mr Hedi Baccouche, leader of the SPD, and Dusan Dragosavac, member of the LCY Presidency, respectively.

The talks, which took place in an atmosphere of friendship and frank cooperation, touched mainly on ways of developing relations between the two parties, and also on an analysis of the international situation, in particular in the Mediterranean.

In this spirit the two parties agreed:

— To strengthen the bonds of friendship and cooperation by multiplying consultations on international problems and problems of internal development;

— To step up exchanges of information;

— To develop exchanges of experience as regards volunteer workers and cadre training.

Examining the international situation, and particularly the situation in the Mediterranean:

The PSD and the LCY express their will to work to make the Mediterranean a lake of peace and cooperation among littoral countries.

They greet and support the forthcoming conference of Mediterranean progressive parties which is soon to be held in Belgrade.

The two parties stress the important part played by the Nonaligned Movement for equal rights for the peoples and in the struggle for peace and security in the world, and in supporting the peoples fighting for freedom and progress.

The PSD and the LCY reaffirm their solidarity with the Palestinian people for the restoration of their legitimate rights, including the right to create an independent and sovereign state under PLO auspices.

The PSD and the LCY note with satisfaction the climate of frankness and understanding which characterized the talks, and welcome the positive results of the meeting.

WESTERN SAHARA

Upper Volta's Sankara Comments on Sahara Visit

LD051119 Algiers APS in Arabic 0800 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Liberated Territories, 5 Apr (APS) — Captain Thomas Sankara, chairman of the National Revolution Council and head of state in Upper Volta, made a statement to the press on his visit to the liberated territories of the SDAR. He said:

It was a duty to go to the Saharan people in order to express our effective support and to show that recognizing their republic was not an act of imitating or following tradition blindly or an execution of orders that have come from another party. The leader of the Upper Voltan state stressed this by saying: We would like to achieve what we believe in, and if we believe in the contrary tomorrow there is nothing to prevent us from proving that by deed. He added: Any struggling people is considered magnificent, extremely magnificent, so much so that every one of us must wish to be beside this struggling people to express our support, recognition and appreciation; a support, recognition and appreciation that are our duty.

Captain Sankara added: I was patiently wishing [words indistinct] to tell them that a people somewhere in Africa, who know the meaning of struggle, namely the Voltan people, support them. Upper Volta is also struggling for liberation and getting rid of all kinds of domination, oppression and exploitation, which prevent us from using more direct and overt means because they are very secretive and deceptive. The head of the Upper Voltan state concluded: Therefore, we are able to feel the (?plight) of those who are experiencing pain for their freedom, dignity and independence.

KENYA

PRC Envoy Delivers Message for President Moi

EA052312 Nairobi KNA in English 1501 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] Nairobi, 5 Apr (KNA) — The ambassador of the People's Republic of China to Kenya, Mr Yang Keming, today called on the minister for foreign affairs, Mr Elijah Mwangale, at his office to hand over to him a personal message for President Daniel arap Moi from the Chinese minister for transport.

The Chinese minister represented his country at the 20th anniversary celebrations of Kenya's independence.

The ambassador also presented to Mr Mwangale another communication from his government on an international matter.

Border Patrol Agreement Made With Tanzania

EA052302 Nairobi KNA in English 1452 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Kajiado April 5 — Kajiado District in Kenya and Munduli in Tanzania have agreed on joint patrols along their common borders and joint hot pursuit in order to combat cattle rustling and smuggling in the area.

During a border meeting held at Namanga (Kenya) and chaired by the Kajiado DC [District Commissioner] Mr Peter Muruatetu, it was also agreed that regular meetings at locational [as received] level between immigration and police commanders and custom officers from both sides of the border be held.

It was also agreed that information which may lead to the apprehension of known criminals be exchanged.

The meeting urged both governments to hasten the introduction of formal trade between the two countries to discourage smuggling.

The meeting also agreed that common joint water projects along the border be encouraged so that the resources may benefit the people of both countries.

Some areas of Kenya along the border get their water from sources in Tanzania and also the same applies to Tanzania.

TANZANIA

Reportage on Symposium on Namibia in Arusha

Ministers Address Symposium

EA052343 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1000 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The minister of state for foreign affairs, Mr Picho Owiny, has reiterated Uganda's commitment to the total liber ation of southern Africa and commended SWAPO for their courage and determination to liberate their country from South Africa's racist rule.

Addressing a symposium on South Africa's illegal occupation of Namibia and its threat to international peace, in Arusha, the minister recommended comprehensive mandatory sanctions against the apartheid regime. He said comprehensive mandatory sanctions are one of the tactical measures which would accelerate the independence of Namibia. He paid tribute to Tanzania for the enormous sacrifices it has made to ensure that the liberation struggle in southern Africa succeeds. Opening the symposium, the Tanzanian minister for transport and communications, Mr John Malecela, expressed confidence that the meeting will make a valuable contribution to the great understanding of the Namibian struggle and come out with urgent measures that will help straighten the apparent impasse.

ANC Appeals for Aid

EA052322 Dar es Salaam External Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The ANC of South Africa has appealed to all progressive nations to give increased moral and material support to the frontline states to enable them to withstand Pretoria's aggression. The call was made today at the ongoing symposium on Namibia in Arusha by a member of the ANC. In his paper on the illegal occupation of Namibia by apartheid South Africa as a threat to international peace and security, Ndugu (Penwell Maduna) also appealed to all world progressive forces to give more aid and support to SWAPO and ANC of South Africa to enable them to prosecute their cause. Ndugu (Maduna) also asked all progressive forces to isolate and impose mandatory sanctions against apartheid South Africa.

CAMEROON

Northern Factions of Presidential Guard Rebel

Shooting, Disturbances in Palace

LD060828 Paris International Service in French 0800 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Disturbances broke out in Cameroon this morning. Intense shooting, occasionally with heavy weapons, was heard in Yaounde between 0400 and 0600. The Cameroonian radio broadcasts did not begin as usual at 0500 this morning, and since 0800 the radio has only been carrying military music.

According to a diplomatic source which we were able to contact this morning, the shooting took place in a residential area of Yaounde near the French Embassy and the Cameroonian National Assembly. Reports reaching Paris mention several deaths. In Yaounde rumors also mention shooting in the Presidential Palace and say that military vehicles are parked around the building.

The commanding officer of the Douala Garrison has apparently been arrested as well as the Cameroonian chief of staff. Apparently roads to the airports are also closed. At the moment, however, traffic in the capital is normal and the population there went to work as usual this morning.

Biya Not in Yaounde

AB060858 Paris AFP in English 0842 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, April 6 (AFP) — Unconfirmed reports here said President Biya was not in Yaounde at the moment.

So far it had been impossible to contact Cameroon's second city of Daouala by telephone and links with Yaounde now also seemed to be cut.

According to informed sources here, firing had restarted in Yaounde but it was not possible to identify the attackers or their targets.

Tanks Move on Palace

LD060926 Paris International Service in French 0900 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Excerpts] Grave disturbances broke out in Cameroon this morning. The shooting resumed again after several hours. The objectives of the attackers are unknown. Informed sources in Yaounde indicate that there are movements of armored vehicles toward the presidential palace, the residence of President Paul Biya, who is reportedly not in the capital. Other armored vehicles are moving toward the residence of the army chief of staff. It is difficult to obtain more reports for the moment insofar as international telephone links have been cut.

Foreign Minister Not Informed

AB060956 Paris AFP in English 0951 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Rabat, April 6 (AFP) — Cameroonian Foreign Minister Felix Tonye Mbog, on an official visit to Morocco, said here he knew nothing about the disturbances reported today in the capital Yaounde. He told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE he had made several unsuccessful attempts to contact Yaounde by phone this morning after hearing the reports of gunfire. Mr Tonye Mbog, who said he had been out of Cameroon for a week, arrived here last night with a message from Cameroonian President Paul Biya to King Hassan II of Morocco.

Bridge to Chad Closed

AB061038 Paris AFP in French 0959 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Ndjamena, 6 Apr (AFP) — Traffic on the Chari River separating Cameroon and Chad is forbidden between Ndjamena and Kousseri (in northern Cameroon), it was learned in the Chadian capital on Friday. This decision was made "for security reasons," a police source specified. It follows the firing especially by heavy weapons, which took place early on Friday in Yaounde and resumed later in the morning.

The Chari River is the only passageway for persons and goods between Chad and Cameroon, it was recalled. Nigerian goods meant for Ndjamena also go by this road.

All Airports Closed

AB061042 Paris AFP in English 1025 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Libreville, April 6 (AFP) — All Cameroon's airports were closed to international flights today and communications links were severed following reports of shooting in the capital, Yaounde, aeronautical sources in the Gabonese capital said.

There were still no precise details of the disturbances in the Cameroonian capital.

Police Colonel Resists Rebels

AB061212 Paris AFP in English 1206 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, 6 (AFP) — A rebellion by northern factions of the Cameroonian Republican Guard responsible for security at the presidential palace was behind clashes in the capital, Yaounde, early today, informed sources here said. The rebellion, led by a northern colonel, followed a decision by President Paul Biya yesterday to transfer all officers from the north of the country out of the presidential guard, the sources said. The rebel soldiers reportedly attacked the presidential palace and the home of the army chief of staff, Pierre Semengue.

The sources said resistance to the rebellion was organised by a colonel in the police force with the help of a land army colonel, who reportedly called in reinforcements, including members of the parachute regiment.

Unconfirmed reports said the Army chief of staff was in the hands of the rebels.

Observers have pointed out that the Cameroonian Army includes a high proportion of soldiers from the north of the country. The observers added that former president Ahmadou Ahidjo, who was sentenced to death in his absence for plotting to murder Mr. Biya on February 28, also comes from the north. Mr. Adhidjo who now lives in France and later had his sentence commuted to life imprisonement, described his trial as an attack on northern Cameroon.

Former President Declines Comment

NC061244 Cairo MENA in English 1202 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] Cairo, April 6 (MENA) — Ahmadou Ahidjo, former president of Cameroon who is currently in France, declined to give any clarifications on whether his supporters were behind the clashes which took place this morning in Yaoundi, Cameroon, Monte Carlo radio reported today. Reports said today that Yaoundi witnessed an exchange of fire in which heavy weapons were used, while tanks were sent on their way to the presidential palace and the house of the chief of staff.

Situation Still 'Confused'

AB061414 Libreville Africa No.1 in French 1400 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] There is nothing new from Cameroon. The situation is still confused. According to reports which cannot be verified, fighting has been going on since this morning in Yaounde where firing from automatic arms and even heavy weapons has been heard. According to the same sources, President Paul Biya is not in the capital but in the south of the country.

CHAD

Conflicting Reports on GUNT-Libyan 'Incidents'

'Informed Source' Confirms Clash

AB052200 Paris AFP in English 1505 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Paris, April 4 (AFP) — Incidents reported in northern Chad between partisans of Libyan-backed ex-President Goukouni Oueddei and Libyan forces were confirmed here today by an informed source. According to the Chadian authorities in Ndjamena yesterday, 50 Libyan soldiers were taken prisoner by Mr Goukouni's men in protest at the "annexation of northern Chad by Libya".

Information Minister Mahamat Soumaila said the northern localities of Bardai and Zouar had been encircled by Libyan troops and threatened with bombardment. According to the source here, only Mr Goukouni's arrival in Bardai averted a direct clash. The Libyans have been backing Mr Goukouni in his fight against the French-backed regime of his successor, President Hissein Habre.

Reports in Paris today said a Libyan column was hemmed in by forces of Mr Goukouni's northern-based Transitional Government of National Unity [GUNT]. A "Committee of Tibesti" had presented the Libyan authorities with the concerns of the region's population, the reports said.

According to the reports, the local people wanted to know if Bardai and Zouar had been annexed like the Aouzou Strip in the extreme north, on the Libyan border. The reports here also confirmed that Libyan forces stationed at the giant palm grove of Faya Largeau in northern Chad had been put on alert in case of any trouble. The reports further said that elements of the Democratic Revolutionary Council [CDR] faction had gone over to Mr Habre's men. The CDR, led by Acheikh ibn Oumar, is one of the main components of the GUNT.

At the end of last month the Habre government announced that one of the GUNT's military chiefs, Saleh Adoum, also known as Saleh Salimi, and eight of his men, had gone over to the Ndjamena government.

At a press conference Saleh Salimi said that the Libyan Government was going ahead rapidly with a "Libyanisation" of northern Chad in numerous and flagrant ways. The Libyan flag was now flying over all of northern Chad, identification papers were in systematic use and Libyan officers were giving indoctrination classes in all schools, he said. He also said that Libya was reinforcing its army in northern Chad daily, and recruiting Chadians for military training at the small locality of Ingalaka with a view to "destabilizing Niger".

Libyan Column Blocked at Zouar

AB052220 Ndjamena Domestic Service in French 1800 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The Libyanization of northern Chad occupied by terrorist troops from Tripoli is no longer a secret to anybody, whether inside or outside Chad. Each passing day brings with it some irrefutable evidence of this policy of Libyanization and alienation imposed on the Chadian people in the occupied territory by the slavery regime of Tripoli. Recent accounts of Chadians who have managed to elude the vigilance of the Libyans to return to legality testify to this. But this is not all; Chadians in the region occupied by the Libyans are becoming more and more aware, and they are making sure that the Libyans do not destroy their most precious possession — the Chadian fatherland.

Other accounts being received abroad, especially from Paris, confirm that Libyan occupants have been oppressing our compatriots everyday. These accounts show that the Chadians no longer accept serving the interests of the Libyans. The incidents of Bardai and Zouar which the minister delegate at the presidency in charge of information related on our radio a few days ago, have been confirmed by other sources.

The sources, whose reports have reached Paris, add that apart from the 50 Libyans taken hostage by Chadian patriots, a Libyan commando was blocked in Zouar by other compatriots, while a delegation of Chadians have registered grievances to the Libyan leaders on behalf of the Chadian people. The delegation wanted

to know whether the Bardai and Zouar regions are also annexed like the Aouzou Strip where, as everybody knows, Libya has established its military base.

Libyan Forces on Alert

LD052216 Paris Domestic Service in French 2115 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The incidents at Bardai and Zouar in northern Chad between GUNT [Transitional National Union Government] and Libyan elements are confirmed by reliable sources in Paris. It is made clear that the arrival of Goukouni Oueddei in Bardai prevented any direct conflict. It is also confirmed that the Libyan forces stationed at Faya-Largeau are on a state of alert. All this information was released yesterday by the Chadian minister of information; it is denied by GUNT.

The Idris Miskine group, named after the Chadianex-minister for foreign affairs, has sent a threatening letter to the Air Afrique airline demanding the suspension of flights between Paris and Ndjamena. It was the Idris Miskine group that claimed responsibility for the attack on the UTA DC-8 at Ndjamena airport nearly a month ago.

Bardai Denies Libyans Held

AB051930 (Clandestine) Bardai Chadian National Radio in French 1800 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] It was with great surprise that we learned from Radio France International [RFI] of the news according to which the Transitional National Union Government [GUNT] was reported to have held about 50 Libyan officers hostage at Bardai and Zouar. This false and whimsical news reported by the RFI, just to mention (?one of them), is only aimed at undermining the good relations between the Chadian people and the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah which supports the liberation struggle of the Chadian people.

In fact, unable to fight face to face with the valiant fighters and commandos of the national liberation army, the reactionary forces in the pay of French-American imperialism, Zionism, and apartheid are desperately trying to sow confusion within the ranks of the patriotic forces and the [word indistinct] of the GUNT and its sincere allies. In fact, the active and militant solidarity between the revolutionary people of Chad and Libya is considerably disturbing the imperialist and reactionary forces and forestalls their diabolic plans of colonial reconquest of all of our national territory.

This is the reason they are embarking upon [passage indistinct] to their friends, in order to weaken them, to destroy them, and to recover (?their lands). This coarse colonial tactic of divide and rule is well known by the struggling patriots [passage indistinct] extremely vigilant will never listen to the enemy. [Words indistinct] patriots led by the GUNT headed by Comrade Goukouni Oueddei, calls on all the liberating forces of the continent to close ranks in order to defeat [words indistinct]. The foreign press is free to visit the liberated sector to acquaint itself with the existing reality.

CORRECTION

Correction to 5 April Central Africa Section

The following correction pertains to the "Central Africa" section that was misprinted in the 5 April Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT* and is reprinted here in its entirety:

GABON

Correction to President Bongo's New Cabinet

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Composition of President Bongo's New Cabinet," published in the 2 April Middle East and Africa *DAILY REPORT*, page S 1, and reprinted here in its entirety:

AB282315Paris AFP in French 1701 GMT 28 Mar 84

[Text] Libreville, 28 Mar (AFP) — The list of the new Gabonese cabinet following yesterday's reshuffle by President El-Hadj Omar Bongo is as follows:

Prime minister and head of government	Leon Mebiame
First deputy prime minister, alternate prime minister and minister of road, rail, river, and lagoon transport and of social communication	Georges Rawiri
Second deputy prime minister, and minister of mines and hydrocarbons	Etienne Guy Mouvagha-Tchioba
Third deputy prime minister, and minister of civil service and administrative reform	Emile Kassa-Mapsi
Minister of state, and minister of foreign affairs and cooperation	Martin Bongo
Minister of state for domains, land registration and urbanism, and responsible for the law of the sea	Henri Minko
Minister of state, and secretary general of the presidency of the republic	Rene Radembino-Coniquet
Minister of state for higher education and scientific research	Jules Bourdes Ougouliguende
Minister of state for industries and state companies	Etienne Moussirou
Minister of state for territorial administration and collectivities	Richard Nguema-Bekale
Minister of state, personal adviser to the president of the republic, and minister of commerce and consumption in charge of new missions (new ministry)	Jean Francois Ntoutoume-Eman
Minister of state in charge of state control (new ministry)	Paul Malekou

Minister of national defense and veterans affairs responsible for public security	Julien Mpouho Epigat
Minister personal adviser to the president of the republic and minister of civil and commercial aviation responsible for missions	Michel Essonghe
Minister of justice and keeper of the seals	General Georges Nkoma
Minister of information, posts, and telecommunications	Zacharie Myboto
Minister of economy, finance, and participations	Jean-Pierre Lemboumba Lepandou
Minister of public works, equipment, and construction; and commander in chief of the national police force	General Jean-Boniface Assele
Minister of planning and territorial development	Pascal Nze
Minister of agriculture, animal husbandry, and rural economy	Michel Anchouey
Minster of national education	Louis Gaston Mayila
Minister secretary general of the government	Victor Affene
Minister of labor and employment	Alexandre Sambat
Minister of public health and population	Jean-Pierre Okias
Minister of social affairs, social security, and welfare	Sylvester Oyouami
Minister of water and forests in charge of forestation	Herve Moustinga
Minister of professional training and promotion of handicrafts	Jose Joseph Amiar Nganga
Minister of energy and hydraulic resources	Divungui Di-Ndinge
Minister of culture, arts, and popular education	Jean-Emile Mbot
Minister of environment and the protection of nature (new ministry)	General Barthelemy
Minister of youth and sports	Mbia Moise Abessolo Edou
Minister of human resources (new ministry)	Valentin Mihindou Mizamba
Minister of habitation and housing, and commander in chief of Gabonese Armed Forces (new ministry)	General Ba Oumar
Minister responsible for relations with the assemblies	Bonjean Francois Ondo
Minister delegate to the prime minister in charge of the merchant marine	Mathieu Nguema
Minister delegate to the first deputy prime minister	Paulin Obame Nguema
Minister delegate to the second deputy prime minister	Joseph Mondjo
Minister delegate to the minister of state and personal adviser to the head of state in charge of commerce and consumption	Guy Nzouba-Ndama
Minister delegate to the minister of economy and finance	Mamadou Diop
Secretaries of state:	
For tourism and leisure in charge of national game reserves (new office)	Albert Yangari
For the promotion of women's affairs	Mrs Rose Rogombe
For small and medium scale enterprises	Emmanuel Nze Bekale
To the prime minister	Joachim Mahotes Magouindi
To the minister of state for foreign affairs and cooperation	Mrs Honorine Dessou Naki
To the minister of state for domains, land registration, and responsible for the law of the sea	Colonel Gaston Felicien Olouna
To the minister of state secretary general to the Presidency of the Republic and the spokesman for the Presidency of the Republic	Jean Ovono Essong
To the minister of state in charge of higher education	Raphael Moapa-Wala
To the minister of state in charge of territorial administration and local collectivities	Antoine Mboumbou Miyakou
To the minister of justice (new office)	Mrs Sophie Ngwamassana
To the minister of public works, equipment, and construction (new office)	Claude Damas Ozimo
To the minister of agriculture, animal husbandry and rural economy	Augustin Boussamba
To the minister of public health and population	Norbert Ndong
To the minister of national education	Paulin Nguema Obame
To the minister of social affairs and social security	Mrs Pauline Nyingone

ZAIRE

France's Nucci Meets With Mobutu During Stopover

AB042222 Paris AFP in French 1234 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 4 Apr (AFP) — The French minister delegate for external affairs in charge of cooperation and development, Christian Nucci, had talks with Zairian head of state Marshal Mobutu Sese Seko during a short stopover on Tuesday afternoon in Kinshasa.

The minister told the press that he specially discussed with President Mobutu the present state of Franco-Zairian cooperation which, he said, is "very active" and which he said he hoped will be diversified.

In regard to Chad, Mr Nucci said he is in favor of a solution negotiated within the framework of the OAU. On the presence of French troops in this country, he recalled that these troops were sent to defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Chad but that their mission is not to launch attacks against the northern part of the country under Libyan occupation. He added, however, that they are bound to defend themselves if attacked.

Radio, TV Workers Send Message to Mobutu

AB042145 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1602 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Kinshasa, 4 Apr (AZAP/PANA) — The workers and cadres of the Zaire Radio and Television Broadcasting Office (ZRTB) addressed a message of gratitude to President Mobutu Sese Seko on Tuesday for his personal assistance to the victims of the explosion that took place last week at the Radio Kinshasa building.

In this message of gratitude the ZRTB staff said that the sad incident they experienced, rather than discouraging them, served to stimulate them in the performance of their special duties for this important political year. The ZRTB administrative council adopted a statement at its meeting last Friday in which it reiterated its support for the Zairian head of state for his renewed show of concern. The explosion left two persons dead and some slightly injured.

GHANA

Tribunal Sentences Nine to Death in Absentia

AB051825 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] A special military tribunal today senetenced eight officers and one noncommissioned officer to death by firing squad in absentia on charges of subversion. They are Colonel Anowah Jijah, Lieutenant Colonel Mohadini Yahaya, Lieutenant Colonel Abitu, Major Soleymana, Major Oppong Addae, Captain Appiah-Adjei, Lieutenant Gammoh, Lieutenant Koffi, and Staff Sergeant Thomas Bompor.

In a trial which ended today, the tribunal unanimously found the accused persons guilty of subversion contrary to sections 1-A and 1-B of Provisional National Defense Council Law 19 as amended.

GUINEA

Further on Situation After Military Takeover

Atmosphere Following Coup

AB051110 Paris AFP in French 0724 GMT 5 Apr 84

[From AFP's special correspondent Kader Diop]

[Text] The Revolutionary People's Republic of Guinea is no more: This is the atmosphere that seems to prevail in the Guinean capital following the coup d'etat that toppled President Sekou Toure's possible successors.

While the word "revolution" seems to have been banned from the Guinean vocabulary — now people in Conakry only talk about "the Republic of Guinea" and "the Guinean Radio and Television Service" instead of "the Voice of the Revolution" — an air of freedom and a good-humored atmosphere is reigning in the streets of the capital.

Small groups are being formed to comment on the event. Tongues are beginning to wag and everywhere there are criticisms against the former regime. But for the moment, the Guineans are not criticizing Sekou Toure himself, observers have noted. This is perhaps because the military committee — in its general policy statement published on Wednesday — avoided doing so and attacked only the family of the departed president and his collaborators.

The latter are being accused of all misdeeds: corruption, arbitrary imprisonment of persons, incessant purges, and pursuit of "counterrevolutionaries."

The Guineans, who have been questioned, spontaneously replaced the traditional "Ready for the revolution!" with "Long live freedom!" song in unison. The attitude of the Guineans toward the press has also changed within the past 24 hours: They are answering questions with enthusiasm and eagerness because the fear to express oneself has disappeared.

AFP Background on Conte

AB051547 Paris AFP in English 1541 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Dakar, April 5 (AFP) — Colonel Lansana Conte, named today as Guinea's head of state after a coup on Tuesday, was born in 1934 at Koya, about 50 kms (30 miles) east of the capital Conakry, a Guinean journalist told Senegalese radio today.

The source said Colonel Conte is Moslem, married to one wife and has two sons, aged 18 and 15.

Col. Conte attended the Bingerville Military Preparatory School in Ivory Coast, the Guinean journalist said. He then went to the Saint-Louis military school in Senegal before entering the armed forces in 1955. Col. Conte was described as "a rigorous officer regarding principles" and "an officer with a reputation for courage, integrity and discretion". He was "well regarded (?in the) Army by the officers as well as the rank and file".

The source said Col. Conte had fought alongside the nationalists of the African Party for the Independence of Guinea-Bissau [words indistinct] Portuguese colonial power while commander of the Fifth Military Zone (northern and northwestern Guinea. He was in charge of defending Conakry from the Isle of Tamara offshore the capital when Guinea opponents and Portuguese soldiers tried to land there on November 22, 1970.

According to the AFP special envoy in Conakry, Col. Conte was the army chief of staff. Tall, with an athletic build, he wears a moustache and is at home among military men.

Conte Interview

AB051615 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1507 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Interview granted by Head of State Colonel Lansana Conte to Radio Conakry in Conakry on 5 April — recorded]

[Text] [Unidentified reporter] Mr President, you have just held your first cabinet meeting of the government of the Second Republic. What did you talk about?

[Conte] The first cabinet meeting of the Second Republic discussed problems of the nation. We told members of government to make contacts with the people so that the new members of government can take up their functions the same day. The task assigned to each one should begin immediately so that there will be no delays in the goals we have set for ourselves.

[Reporter] In your government, there are soldiers and civilians. These civilians, did you know them before appointing them?

[Conte] Yes, we know the civilians we appointed. Some of them were chosen for us by the soldiers according to their rank and capacity and according to other criteria. We are, therefore, convinced that we will do a good job with them and that they will feel at ease because we will consider them as if they wore the same military uniform we do.

[Reporter] How do you find the situation of human rights in Guinea?

[Conte] The human rights situation will be among our priority programs. As you know, since gaining our independence 26 years ago, we have been living under a regime in which a man did not have the right of speech. A man did not have the right to say what he thinks and where he chooses to say it. [sentence as heard] Organizations established to discuss problems of workers such as [name indistinct] did not have the right to express the grievances of workers. People were placed at the head of these organizations to shout praises and to say what would please those in power and not to defend the interest of workers. And these citizens who, at the time of independence thought they were really liberated, unfortunately found out very early that this is not what they expected from the independence. Independence to us is to lead, to better serve. We have not seen this for the past 26 years. Now the CMRN has decided to place itself at the disposal of the people of Guinea, the workers of Guinea, and all Guinean citizens so that they can finally say what has to be said and do what is good to do, exclusively in the interest of all citizens.

Like all developing countries, we also have this problem of tribalism, but in my own opinion, tribalism is more intense in Guinea than in any other country. We want to abolish this tribalism. The CMRN has therefore firmly resolved to see that all Guinean citizens have the same rights, the same duties, and therefore are made to respect human rights. We are committed to having human rights respected, first within the government and then to see to it that all citizens consider themselves equal before the law and have the same responsibilities. Guineans should rest assured that now that we have taken over power, nobody will be allowed to trample upon human rights in Guinea again.

The prime minister and I and all the other members of the government have committed ourselves to respecting human rights in Guinea. We must do everything not to flout these rights. We have sworn to serve the people correctly so that our brothers who are in the cities and the (?villages) realize that they are from the same mothers and same fathers, because we all are sons of the same country; therefore, we are equal. Nobody chose where he was born and when he was born. When you belong to one nation, it is the nation that one must take into account but not the person in power.

[Reporter] One last word for the people of Guinea who believe that it took you too much time to assume your responsibility.

[Conte] Yes, that is true and first of all we apologize to them. If it took us so much time, I believe that is was necessary. If we had seized power earlier, we who are talking to you today would no longer be here. At that time, the spirit of the Guinean was such that he would not think, because some Guineans behaved like fools. They were remote-controlled. One would believe that the people were unable to think. Now, we want Guineans to think in order to act. Now, we are going to begin again the education of our (?militia) and that of all our citizens — that will be difficult. But little by little, what entered our heads through the help of Satan will be removed gradually in order to inculcate in the Guinean the human spirit. Do you know that up till now, some people have been afraid, believing that the former regime would return? But the former regime is dead with President Ahmed Sekou Toure, whom we lauded for leading us to independence, and we praise him.

Now that we have succeeded in taking his place, we are obliged to banish all the evils he inflicted on the people of Guinea, despite the fact that up to now we respected him.

[Reporter] We thank you, Mr President, for having assumed the destiny of the Guinean people without any bloodshed or exchange of fire.

[Conte] Thank you.

Minister's Installation

AB051752 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1700 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The installation ceremony of the new foreign minister, Captain Facine Toure, was held on Thursday, 5 April 1984, at 1300 GMT.

Welcoming the minister, Fode (Berete), permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, after introducing the various division heads, told Captain Facine Toure of the preparedness of the entire staff to cooperate frankly with him, without demagogy and speeches, in order to produce a quality job and to attain more brilliant successes.

In a reply to the welcoming address, Captain Facine Toure stated he was short of words to describe his feelings in view of the warm, brotherly, and enthusiastic welcome given him. [passage indistinct] Captain Facine Toure also added that the CMRN only answered the people's call by seizing power and that it shares with the people their problems. The ceremony ended at 1330 GMT.

Freeing of Trade Unions

AB051730 Conakry Domestic Service in French 1705 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Statement issued by the Military Committee for National Redress (CMRN) in Conakry on 5 Apr 1984 — read by announcer]

[Text] The CMRN reaffirms to the people of Guinea that it has taken over the country's destiny. Consequently, the CMRN lifts the suspension on trade unions in order to enable them to carry out their duty of watching over the interests of workers.

[Signed] CMR/PR

Messages of Support

AB051600 [Editorial Report] Conakry Domestic Service in French at 1245 GMT on 5 April reports that the Guinean Military Committee for national Redress [CMRN] is continuing

to receive messages of congratulation and support from Guineans inside and outside the country as well as from foreigners. Here are some of these messages:

From the students of the Conakry Polytechnic: "The CMRN has only done its duty.We are now free from the policy of demoagogy and dictatorship which we experienced under the defunct regime. Henceforth , we will study in an atmosphere of calm and dignity. We will defend the causes of social justice by the side of the CMRN in order to safeguard the just recovered freedom."

From Robert Fara, archbishop of Conakry: "I listened very carefully to all the communiques which clearly stated the intentions and objectives of the CMRN that has now taken over the country's administration. In the name of the church, I would like to express my support for the contents of these communiques and hail the happy outcome of the recent events which took place (?in a calm atmosphere) and without any violence and bloodshed. I congratulate and thank the military committee which has been to bring the situation under control with a competence rthy of admiration. Together with our people, I thank the ...nighty God for having inspired men with such peaceful sentiments at a dramatic moment in our history. I am also reassured and comforted to see that among the new Guinean realities, priority is given to your committee's essential role of safeguarding peace, harmony, and national reconciliation. Together we must assume the burden of the past heritage and resolutely face a future free from personal or collective ambitions and resentments so that our people may be spared the chaos of unnecessary suffering and the return of bitterness engendered by ethnic or partisan opposition."

From Mr Soumahoro, an international functionary in Brussels: "Sincere congratulations for the objectives and program of action of the CMRN which I totaliy support."

From Guinean nationals in Liberia: "It was with immense satisfaction that we learned about your heroic operation and your decision to assume your national responsibility by taking over the management of the Guinean state. By this action, you have at last freed our people from the oppressive and bloody regime of the Guinean Democratic Party. We express to you our total support and we are ready to assist you in the realization of your objectives."

From Abdoulaye Wade, secretary general of the Senegalese Democratic Party: "I have learned of your decision to put a stop tc dictatorship in Guinea and to open a new era of democracy. You have accomplished an act which honors the Guinean army. You have opened wide Guinea's gates in order to welcome its millions of citizens who had been chased away and forced to go into exile. I hope that you will organize as rapidly as possible a pluralistic political system which will enable everyone to freely express himself in the respect of the order guaranteed by the army. I have taken note of your determination to ensure respect for human rights and to establish democracy in Guinea I bring you my fraternal support and that of the militants of the Senegalese Democratic Party."

LIBERIA

Thirteen Accused Plotters To Be Executed

AB051706 Paris AFP in English 1700 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Monrovia, April 5 (AFP) — Thirteen of 19 people accused in November of plotting against Liberian head of state Samuel Doe are to be executed by firing squad tomorrow morning, the state news agency LINA said, quoting Speical Military Tribunal Chairman Major-General Alfred Gayflor. But the agency added the verdict of the tribunal was subject to Mr Doe's approval.

Those found guilty of high treason, mutiny, murder and conspiracy include Major Kalongo Luo, who was assistant minister of agriculture, Captains Allen B. Davies and Acqua Dolo, Lieutenants Victor Togbah and Arthur Suah, Sergeant Moses Teah, and privates Wilfred Senei, Darbie Wanseleay and Buster Sinnatuah.

Moses Duopu, Johnny B. Herring, Harry Yuan and Weh Dorlie were convicted of "solicitation", the tribunal chairman said.

Acquitted for lack of evidence and restored to the army with full retroactive benefits were former Armed Forces Logistics Commander Colonel John Nuahu, Lieutenant Yarkpawolo Flomo, Immigration Officer Jefferson Dolo and Privates Jessie Siway and Abdullai Dumbia.

In a separate matter, four military and paramilitary personnel are to die at dawn tomorrow by firing squad for armed robbery. That decision is also subject to approval of the head of state.

They are State House guard Army Sergeant Johnny Davies, Police Sergeant Robert Sackor, Patrolman Moses Powen and Private James Garteh of the Military Police Detachment. They were found guilty of entering a fishing corportaion, holding up security guards at gun point and getting away with a safe containing over 24,000 dollars last May.

NIGERIA

Lagos on 'Strategy' for Namibian Independence

AB042230 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 4 Apr 84

["Viewpoint"]

[Text] In February and March this year, there were two developments which could seriously affect the liberation struggle in southern Africa. One was the signing of a nonaggression and good-neighborliness pact between Angola and apartheid South Africa, and the other was a similar accord between Mozambique and South Africa.

Reactions to these developments were varied. While the OAU expressed what was enigmatically said to be sympathy and understanding, the reaction of individual African states went from scepticism to perplexity. But for the nationalist movements in southern Africa, news of the nonaggression pacts was received

with consternation and outright disappointment. The reaction of the nationalist movements is understandable to a very large extent. Up till now, Angola and Mozambique, in view of their contiguity to Namibia and South Africa, have formed important outposts for the nationalist struggle. But under the accord with South Africa, Angola is precluded from giving succor to SWAPO. This is the crux of the matter and it urgently calls for the adoption of a new approach to Namibia's independence struggle. Another factor which has affected the independence issue is the prevarication of some Western nations whose attitudes have frustrated the efforts of the Western Contact Group on Namibia. This also makes it imperative for Africa to fashion out a new strategy for the achievement of Namibia's independence.

The president of SWAPO, Mr Sam Nujoma, has fully recognized the need for a new approach to the liberation struggle. He told the Nigerian head of state, Major General Muhammadu Buhari, that the recent developments were aimed at eroding the support of liberation movements in the frontline states and called for Nigeria's continued diplomatic and moral support.

On behalf of Nigeria, Gen Buhari pledged that his country would continue to place the problem of Namibia's independence in the forefront of its African policy. He said that in the meantime, Nigeria's minister of external affairs would undertake a tour of the frontline states for a full assessment of the situation in southern Africa. It has always been the conviction of independent African states that armed struggle is necessary for the liberation of the long-oppressed people of Namibia, but in the present circumstances, a new strategy is called for. This may be worked out by the OAU Liberation Committee in conjunction with SWAPO and the frontline states.

Since the total liberation of Africa is the cardinal objective of the OAU, its Liberation Committee has to meet urgently to take another look at Namibia's situation and work out a new formula. It is also very important that all member states of the OAU, which are in arrears of their contributions to the liberation efforts, should pay up to enable the Liberation Committee to play its proper role in relation to Namibia's independence.

Although South Africa has succeeded in using blackmail to hinder progress towards Namibia's independence, Africa cannot afford to abandon SWAPO and Namibia; therefore, the continent has to review its role so far and adopt a new and more effective strategy for the achievement of independence for Namibia.

Thailand, Pakistan, Others To Supply Foodstuffs

AB051529 Lagos Domestic Service in English
2100 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Nigeria has entered into an agreement for the importation of 400,000 tons of rice from Thailand. The shipment of the commodity will start next week and the first consignment is expected in the country next month. The agreement was reached after 2 days of negotiations in Lagos by the ministers of commerce of the two countries.

In a speech at the signing of the accord, the minister of commerce and industry, Dr Mahmud Tukur, announced that Nigeria has also concluded a similar agreement with Canada for the supply of 3.6 million cartons of milk to supplement the local production of 2.6 million cartons for this year. He announced that the Federal Government would sign another accord later today with Pakistan for the purchase of 180,000 tons of rice.

The minister also stated that the Federal Government intended to start negotiations with the United States for the bulk of wheat for the country's mills and [word indistinct] for the animal feed industry. He said negotiations for the bulk purchase of other commodities such as cement will be undertaken at the appropriate time.

Dr Tukur pointed out that these were short-term measures which the present administration was taking to fulfill its obligations to the people in the provision of food and other essential commodities. The minister stressed that the government had unequivocally identified the production of food by Nigeria as a long term measure.

In his own speech, the minister of commerce of Thailand, Koson Krairoek, said that his country realized the problem of Nigeria in trying to feed its people and was prepared to assist her in the area of rice production.

UPPER VOLTA

Sankara Returns Following Visits Abroad

AB042215 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French
2000 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Excerpt] The head of state, Comrade Thomas Sankara, returned home this evening at 1930 at the end of an official visit which took him to the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, the SDAR, and the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

ANGOLA

54 UNITA Troops Said Killed in Huambo, Cuanza Sul

MB052045 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] More than 54 UNITA criminals were killed by the Angolan Armed Forces in the Huambo and Cuanza Sul Provinces in operations launched recently.

In Cuanza Sul Province, where 2 weeks ago the UNITA criminals tried to infiltrate groups into the city of Sumbe, the net is closing around the bandits who have smaller fields of operation. In these offensive operations, the Angolan combatants captured vast quantities of war materiel and released hundreds of peasants who were kidnapped and held prisoner by the UNITA criminals.

Meanwhile, the population of Gabela, in Cuanza Sul, recently demonstrated against the infiltration attempt by groups of bandits in the city of Sumbe. In a mass rally held in that city, the area residents demonstrated their opposition to the UNITA criminal deeds, and reiterated once again their support for Comrade President Jose Eduardo dos Santos and the MPLA- Labor Party.

Jorge Meets With Kampuchean Foreign Minister

MB050856 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 1200 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Text] Hun Sen, the Kampuchean minister of foreign affairs, visited our country from 30 March to 2 April leading an important delegation from his ministry which held talks with the Angolan authorities. During his visit to Angola, the Kampuchean minister was received by Paulo Jorge, Angolan minister of external affairs, with whom he held talks on bilateral relations and international issues.

He was also received by Comrade Colonel Juliao Mateus Paulo, Dino Matross, a member of the Political Bureau of the MPLA-Labor Party, on behalf of Jose Eduardo dos Santos, the Angolan head of state. They discussed the international issues, and Hun Sen delivered a personal message from Heng Samrin, chairman of the Kampuchean Council of State, to President Jose Eduardo dos Santos.

Before leaving our country, the Kampuchean minister of foreign affairs paid homage to heroes of the Angolan revolution and laid a wreath of flowers in their tomb in the People's Palace in Luanda.

At the end of the talks a final communique was issued on the visit of the Kampuchean foreign minister to the People's Republic of Angola. Both parties reiterated their similiar points of view on Angolan issues, as well as on the Kampuchea question and also on the international issues.

The Angolans informed the Kampuchean delegation about the internal situation in Angola and mentioned the UNITA criminal actions, the agreements signed between Angola and South Africa, and the revolutionary victories of the Angolan people.

The Kampuchean minister in turn spoke about the current development of his country and the difficulties they have encountered, particularly in the external [name indistinct]. On the Namibian problem both parties reaffirmed their similar points of view, and said it was pertinent and necessary to implement immediately and without any delay the UN Security Council Resolution 435. On other world conflicts, they made reference to the Western Sahara problem, the Palestinian question, and the Central American issue, and said that the victory of the forces of peace and progress is inevitable. They expressed their concern over the escalating arms race and spoke in favor of dismantling the present nuclear missiles to save mankind from a nuclear holocaust.

At the end of the visit of the Kampuchea minister of foreign affairs, Paulo Jorge was invited to visit that country. The date of the visit will be arranged later.

BOTSWANA

Immigration Officer on Namibia Border Crossings

MB060557 Gaborone Domestic Service in English 0510 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The immigration officer at Mamuno border gate, Mr (Mukole Baliti), has urged residents of villages along the border with Namibia to refrain from crossing illegally into that country. He said illegal crossing was a danger and a risk, as the other side of the border is patrolled by armed officers who will not hesitate to shoot aliens in that country. Mr (Baliti) expressed concern that residents of the border villages are always reluctant to apply for passports and rather choose to risk their lives. He advised the villagers to come to his office for advice and information about obtaining passports.

LESOTHO

Government Rejects as False ANC Call on Blast

MB051705 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] A Lesotho Government spokesman today dismissed as false a statement by the South African Broadcasting Corporation, SABC, today, that an unidentified member of the ANC had telephoned the SABC from Maseru, claiming responsibility for the recent bomb blast in Durban. The spokesman said the ANC was known to issue formal statements of responsibility for bombings in South Africa from their headquarters in Lusaka and the ANC office in London.

The spokesman added that the leader of the ANC, Mr Oliver Tambo, was quoted this week as having refused to confirm or deny responsibility for the explosion. The spokesman reiterated Lesotho's position that the Lesotho Government would not allow Lesotho to be used as base for violent action against South Africa and that no South African exiles in Lesotho would be allowed to

engage in any activity that would threaten the security of South Africa or any other neighboring country.

RSA Identification Aid Requested

MB051709 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The Lesotho Ministry of Foreign Affairs has reacted with dismay to a broadcast by the South African Broadcasting Corporation, SABC, that a member of the ANC has telephoned from Lesotho claiming responsibility for the recent bomb blast in Durban. The ministry has requested the South African Department of Foreign Affairs, as a matter of priority, to collaborate in such a manner as to lead to the identification of the ANC sources claiming responsibility for the explosion. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also expressed concern about the statement regarding ANC elements referred to in the broadcast, and requests the South African Foreign Affairs Department to cooperate fully, with the purpose of identifying the elements concerned in order that Lesotho can discharge its responsibilities accordingly.

In conclusion, the ministry makes an observation that similar broadcasts under similar circumstances have previously been made by the SABC, without furnishing Lesotho with the details being sought.

Electoral Act Amendment Introduced in Parliament

MB060553 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The Electoral Amendment Bill, intended to make the requisite adjustments to the Electoral Act of 1968 before the holding of general elections, was tabled in Parliament in Maseru this morning. The main admendment contained in the bill includes a provision empowering the minister concerned to fix a different date for the taking of polls in specific constituencies in the interests of national security. The act, as it stands now, provides that all polls in all constituencies throughout Lesotho shall take place on one and the same day, except where a candidate dies after nomination or where there are riots.

Another amendment is an increase from 200 maluti to 1,000 maluti as a deposit for a person nominated as a candidate for elections.

MADAGASCAR

U.S. Envoy Walters Departs After Seeing Ratsiraka

MB052000 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] General Vernon Walters, the U.S. roving ambassador, left Madagascar this morning at the end of a 3-day visit. He was received by President of the Republic Didier Ratsiraka on Tuesday, the day of his arrival in our country. Nothing has been disclosed about the meeting.

Gen Walters gave a press conference before his departure and it is believed the achievements of his visit to Madagascar were revealed at the press conference.

We recall that this was the second visit to Madagascar by Gen Vernon Walters. His first visit was in February 1982.

Bulgarian Trade Delegation Arrives for Visit

MB051249 Antananarivo Domestic Service in French 0430 GMT 4 Apr 84

[Excerpt] A nine-member official trade delegation from Bulgaria arrived in Antananarivo yesterday morning led by Rumen (Sako), the director of foreign trade of Bulgaria. Yesterday afternoon, the Bulgarian delegation reviewed bilateral trade relations with Mr (Maurice Ramsaki), the permanent secretary of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Mr (Maurice Ramsaki) also underlined the need to transfer technology in order to reach an economic and social balance throughout the world. During its 1-week visit a trade agreement and an economic, scientific-technical, and cultural cooperation agreement will be signed between the two countries.

MOZAMBIQUE

ANC Must Leave Country or Move to UNHCR Camp

AB051530 Paris AFP in English 1513 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Lusaka, April 5 (AFP) — Mozambique has ordered members of the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC) to leave its soil or be confined to a refugees camp as a result of the Nkomati nonaggression pact between Maputo and Pretoria, the ANC said here today.

The move leaves the ANC with no sanctuaries from which its guerrillas can operate in countries bordering South Africa and is a severe blow to its effectiveness as a black nationalist anti-apartheid movement.

In a statement from its offices in Lusaka, Zambia, the ANC said the government of President Samora Machel had allowed it to maintain a diplomatic office in Maputo. "Those of our members who will not be on the staff of this office will either have to reside in an UNHCR (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees)-controlled refugee camp in Mozambique or leave the country," the statement said. "The ANC is currently having discussions with various African governments concerning resettlement of these refugees," it added. The governments were not named.

It was not immediately clear how many ANC members would be affected. There are a number of exiled ANC supporters in Mozambique not working directly for the liberation movement, which is banned in South Africa. The ANC has been on the defensive with its former host since Mr Machel agreed as part of the Nkomati accord signed on March 16 to prevent guerrilla incursions from Mozambique into South Africa.

A week later Mozambican police raided ANC houses and offices and arrested ANC members in Maputo in a search for weapons. There has been no confirmation whether weapons were discovered.

Swaziland signed a similar nonaggression pact with Pretoria in secret in 1982. Lesotho said many ANC members left its territory "voluntarily" following a South African raid on its capital of Maseru in December 1982 in which more than 40 people were killed.

Both Lesotho and Botswana have said they will not shelter ANC insurgents.

ANC President Oliver Tambo left Zimbabwe — South Africa's other black neighbor — for Lusaka today after a five-day visit during which Western diplomats said he had sought increased support from Prime Minister Robert Mugabe.

Zimbabwean officials have emphasised that they will continue to give the ANC diplomatic and political support through the Organization of African Unity's Liberation Committee. But Harare has repeatedly denied any intention of granting military bases or transit facilities to ANC guerrillas.

In an interview with the ZIMBABWE NEWS AGENCY in Harare yesterday Tambo appealed for ANC members who did not work directly for its offices in Mozambique to leave the country or surrender to the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

Mr Tambo said he had been shocked by the police raids on ANC houses in Maputo but saw "no use crying over spilt milk."

ANC: Mozambique Mission 'Trimmed'

MB051740 Umtata Capital Radio in English 1700 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The ANC says its presence in Mozambique is being trimmed to diplomatic mission. It is reported from Lusaka that the ANC says South Africa is responsible for its withdrawal. The ANC has acknowledged that Mozambique has ordered all ANC members not attached to the mission to move into UN refugee camps or leave the country. The organization says it is currently having discussions with various African governments concerning the resettlement of these refugees.

District Demonstrations Held in Support of Accord

MB051030 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0430 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] Fernando Matavele, the party second provincial secretary and the provincial military commander of Gaza, received in recent days 46 contos for the strengthening of our country's defense capacity. The money was donated during a Chibuto District demonstration in support of the nonaggression and good neighborliness accord signed between Mozambique and South Africa.

Addressing the demonstrators, Fernando Matavele appealed for the heightening of people's vigilance with a view to neutralize every and any enemy action. Demonstrations in support of the Nkomati accord also took place in recent days in the districts of Massingir and Chicualacuala.

SOUTH AFRICA

Prime Minister: Steel Production Level 'Enviable'

MB051023 Johannesburg International Service in English 0630 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The South African prime minister, Mr P.W. Botha, says South Africa finds itself in the strategically enviable position of being independent of foreign sources of steel supply. Speaking in Pretoria to mark the Iron and Steel Corporation's 50th year of production, he said the importance of being self-sufficient regarding steel was obvious, particularly in the present-day context where threats of trade sanctions were so easily made. Mr Botha said it was an advantage that should not be seen only in terms on money or tonnages, but in the light of its strategic value.

He said that if South Africa was to keep up its economic development despite the hardship caused by the prolonged drought and the low gold price, the manufacturing industry would have to expand still further. Businesses had to be managed efficiently to remain competitive on the domestic market, but each business that could should enter the overseas market.

Tambo Says ANC Intensifying Struggle Against RSA

MB051303 Harare Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The president of the African National Congress of South Africa, Comrade Oliver Tambo, says the people of southern Africa still support the struggle for Namibian independence and efforts to end apartheid, despite pressures from the Pretoria regime.

Comrade Tambo was speaking before departing for Lusaka today at the end of a short visit to Zimbabwe. He said the racist regime had no reasons for rejoicing, because during meetings held in the past 2 weeks with southern African leaders, he has been assured of their continued support of the struggle being launched against the minority government in Pretoria.

Comrade Tambo said while the ANC has suffered setbacks of late, this has not deterred it from intensifying the struggle against the Botha regime.

Indian Leader Says Bomb Aimed at SAIC Office

MB061001 Johannesburg RAND DAILY MAIL in English 6 Apr 84 p 2

[Excerpt] The head of the South African Indian Council, Mr Armichand Rajbansi, said yesterday he believed his offices were the target of the car bomb that exploded on Durban's Esplanade

on Tuesday. "The bomb was intended for our offices," Mr Rajbansi said. "We have been receiving death threats for a while now, but these have been stepped up in the past two weeks."

He said activity against the new constitution, and the fact that the delimitation commission had published the draft proposals for the electoral boundaries, had been fierce in the past week. "The commission also has its offices in this building — and don't forget our office was bombed before," he said.

Mr Rajbansi said his children had received messages in the past few weeks saying: "You will find your father's head coming home," and his wife had been told they were "going to be blown up and attacked."

He said it was obvious his offices had been the target and did not believe it was coincidence that the bomb went off at 7:30 a.m., "which is our starting time."

"There are these people whom I won't name, who go from door to door telling people violence is the only way, trying to impose their will by coercive tactics and saying that the Indian community must rise up and not allow 'these people' to dictate to them," Mr Rajbansi said.

Explosion Damages Building in Bloemfontein
MB061244 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] An explosion caused damaged to the old part of the black township near Bloemfontein early this morning. The building, which houses the Transkeian consulate, was damaged but no one was killed or injured. The police are investigating.

SABC Considers Use of Satellites in Broadcasting
MB060719 Johannesburg Domestic Service in Afrikaans 1400 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The chairman of the South African Broadcasting Corporation board, Professor Wynand Mouton, says the SABC is investigating the possibility of using satellite techniques to distribute programs to remote areas, and says he expects the SABC will probably become actively involved in satellite technology in the near future. Professor Mouton made this anouncement in his chairman's report, which was tabled in Parliament today. He also referred to the establishment by the Post Office of the experimental videotext system, Beltel, and said that the SABC would in the future have to focus attention on the teletext system. Teletext is a system by which coded information of all sorts is carried invisibly in the television signal and can be unlocked by a viewer by means of a decoder.

Professor Mouton also said in his report that the need for the independent national states to communicate with their citizens in South Africa was recognized. For that particular purpose, certain aspects, such as distribution systems, required further attention. Professor Mouton said that the rapidly changing structures in South Africa and the rest of southern Africa necessitated the SABC's taking a close look at its own activities. New technologies would have to be used to ensure that maximum advantage was obtained from limited manpower.

ZAMBIA

President Kaunda Warns of Crackdown on Importers
MB060711 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 6 Apr 84

[Text] His excellency the president, Dr Kaunda, has warned that the party and its government will deal ruthlessly with unscrupulous businessmen who abuse their foreign exchange allocations to import goods into the country that are not necessary.

The president, who was speaking at a dinner given in his honor by Copperbelt Central Committee member Alex Shapi last night, said that a number of companies existed only in their brief cases, but were involved in peddling import licenses. Dr Kaunda said that the party and its government was determined to ensure that nothing that was locally manufactured should be imported, saying if this is allowed, the economy of the country would weaken.

On the economic situation in the country, Dr Kaunda said that although Zambia was in its [words indistinct] there was also an hour of maximum optimism for that very economy. Early in the day Dr Kaunda directed district councils throughout the country to get involved in food processing industry to boost agriculture in forging ahead towards self-sufficiency.

Addressing leaders from various sectors of the party and economy in the Broadway Cinema Hall in Ndola, Dr Kaunda said agricultural produce which could be canned was in abundance in many parts of the country. He said that such industries should be based in areas where the materials were readily available, and said agriculture was the major economic activity in view of money-earning industry.

ZIMBABWE

Mugabe Sends Anniversary Message to Hungary
MB051011 Harare Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 5 Apr 84

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Robert Mugabe, yesterday sent a message of congratulations to the secretary of the Hungarian Socialist Worker's Party, Comrade Janos Kadar, on his country's independence anniversary.

In his message, Comrade Mugabe thanked the people of Hungary for their assistance in Zimbabwe before and after independence. He said Zimbabwe has followed with great admiration the efforts made by the Hungarian People's Republic towards the achievement of global peace, the reduction of the nuclear arsenal, and an end to the arms race.